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FEB. 7 1945



J. A. G. 1945

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"COUNTRY LIFE" issues of July 21 and 28 1930 and of July 9, 16 and 23, 1921, very recently.—Box 700.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTION ADVERTISING PAGE 54



# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIX. No. 2556

JANUARY 11, 1946

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(h. & c.).

BATHROOM.



Full details from the Owner's Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester. (Tel. 334/5).

MODERNISED COTTAGE RESIDENCE.  
GARAGE.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

PRICE £6,500

FOR THE WHOLE

or the Residence would be sold without the  
Cottage for £4,750.

(Folio 8178)

## Near MAIDSTONE, KENT

A small old-world residence and farmery in a lovely  
position.LOUNGE HALL, 2 REC., KITCHEN with "AGA,"  
MAID'S SITTING ROOM, 3 BEDROOMS with basins  
(h. & c.), BATHROOM.

Old oak beams.

MAIN WATER. GARAGE. GARDEN and ORCHARD.  
Farm buildings and some

36 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION. PRICE £6,000

JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street,  
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## V. W. H. CRICKLADE HUNT

Well known and charming small Georgian residence,  
modernised. 3 RECEPTION. 6 BED. BATHROOM.

GOOD STABLING AND GARAGES.

First-rate Pasture Land, in all

39 ACRES

MAIN WATER. ELECTRICITY.

Pleasant small gardens.

PRICE £8,000, OPEN OFFERS

Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).

(Folio 8175)

Grosvenor 3121  
(3 lines)

## WINKWORTH & CO.

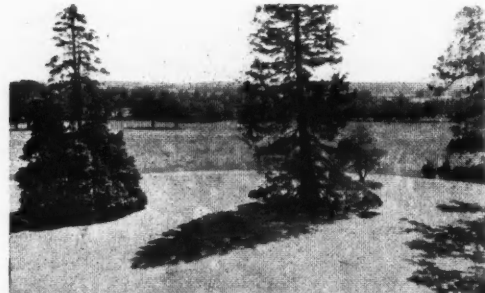
48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

### A VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE OF ABOUT 150 ACRES

### HERTS-MIDDLESEX BORDERS

*Only sixteen miles from Piccadilly Circus*

### A MODERATE SIZED GEORGIAN HOUSE

9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,  
3 reception rooms.ELECTRIC LIGHT, COMPANY'S  
WATER, PARTIAL CENTRAL  
HEATING.GARAGES, STABLING, USEFUL  
OUTBUILDINGS.PICTURESQUE LODGE AND  
BUNGALOW.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS WITH LARGE ORNAMENTAL LAKE. CAPITAL HOME FARM AND BAILIFF'S HOUSE.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

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(6060.)



# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

## COMMANDING A VIEW TO THE CHANNEL

Between Ashford, Hythe and Folkestone



**DELIGHTFUL OLD KENTISH MANOR HOUSE**, with many interesting features, and much old oak in beams and rafters. Fully modernised and enlarged under expert direction in perfect harmony with the older structure.

4 reception, cocktail bar, principal bedroom suite, 9 other bedrooms, 6 modern bathrooms, complete domestic offices. Radiators throughout. Main water and electricity.

Attractive grounds with hard and grass tennis courts. Ample, well-equipped garages. Charming Guest House, half-timbered, and thatched (8 rooms and bathroom). Small set of Farm Buildings for Dairy Herd, together with pasture, arable and woodland

### TO BE SOLD WITH 140 ACRES

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By direction of the Right Hon. Lord Nunburnholme.

## SOUTH KENT COAST

Close to Sea and adjoining Golf Course



### "FAIRWAYS," Littlestone-on-Sea

Modern Residence, facing west and overlooking golf course, and containing entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, billiards room, 8 principal and secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 servants, bedrooms, domestic offices with Esse and electric stoves.

Main water, gas, electricity and drainage.

Two garages. 1/2 Gardens of 1/4 acre, include lawns, hard court and kitchen garden.

### FOR SALE, FREEHOLD VACANT POSSESSION

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(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

## HEREFORDSHIRE

In the centre of the Ledbury Hunt, 400 ft. up, facing south with excellent views.

THE LEASE IS AVAILABLE of a Residential property including a charming residence (miniature copy of Reigate Priory).

**LOUNGE HALL:** 3 reception, gun room, 10 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

### CENTRAL HEATING;

Electricity, water by gravitation. Septic tank drainage. Telephone. 2 Cottages. Garage for 3 cars. Stabling for 6.

Gardens extend to about 5 acres and include tennis court, terraces, roses, flower beds and borders, fine old shady specimen trees. Well-stocked kitchen garden.



### IN ALL ABOUT 19 ACRES

RENT £250 PER ANNUM, full repairing lease of 5 1/2 years with option of an extension. Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20 Hanover Square, W.1. (41,378)

## BUCKS—6 MILES FROM HIGH WYCOMBE

650 feet up on the Chilterns, southerly aspect, panoramic views, 1 1/2 miles station, on bus route.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE on two floors, modernised and unusually well equipped. 2 reception, 3 large bed and dressing-rooms en suite, 3 bathrooms, maids, bedroom. Model offices with Aga cooker. Central heating, main electricity and water. Modern drainage. Oak strip floors, oak staircase. Built-in cupboards. Garage and outbuildings. Laid-out garden, roses, flowering shrubs, ornamental trees, matured fruit trees. ABOUT 1/2 ACRE.



### FREEHOLD TO BE SOLD

### VACANT POSSESSION

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(Established 1892)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1; 1, STATION ROAD, READING.

## KENT COAST

Close to Golf. High up on Southern slope close to the sea with views to the French coast.



**WELL DESIGNED MODERN RESIDENCE.** 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, loggia, all main services, central heating, hot and cold water in all bedrooms, oak floors, maids' sitting room, butler's pantry, double garage, terraced gardens. About **AN ACRE.** PRICE £6,500.—Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

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**VACANT POSSESSION**  
£7,250 WILL PURCHASE DELIGHTFUL OLD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE ON OUTSKIRTS OF OLD TOWN IN HERTS 50 minutes of London.



8-10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3-4 reception rooms. GARAGE and MEN'S ROOMS. LOVELY OLD WALLED GARDEN. 2 ACRES IN ALL. MAIN DRAINAGE. COMPANIES' WATER, ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

## JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

Regent 0911  
(2 lines)

By Direction of Trustees.

**SYRESHAM HOUSE, Nr. BRACKLEY, Northamptonshire**

Close to the village of Syresham, and about 4 miles from Brackley, 12 miles from Banbury.

Hunting obtainable with The Grafton, Whaddon Chase, also the Bicester Hounds. For Sale by Auction, in one lot, at The London Auction Market, 155, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4, on Friday, February 1, 1946, at 2.30 p.m.



Vacant possession of main residence, stabling, garage and one cottage; the land is let. Accommodation: Hall and 4 sitting rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electricity and power, central heating, excellent water supply. Plenty of good modern stabling, garage for 3 cars, grooms, room, 2 cottages (one only with possession). Charming pleasure grounds, walled garden with fruit trees, together with several enclosures and pasture (let). In all about **64 ACRES.**

Illustrated particulars with plan (2/-) may be had from the Solicitors: Messrs. HUNTERS, 9, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2; or from the Auctioneers: Messrs. JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

By Direction of Executors. **NORTHDOWN, HEATHFIELD, Sussex** 1 mile from Heathfield Station, 13 miles from Tunbridge Wells, and 16 miles from Eastbourne For Sale by Auction at The London Auction Market, 155 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Tuesday, February 12, 1946, at 2.30 p.m. As a whole or in lots as under:

Lot 1.—17th-century Residence with cottage, garages, grounds (with hard tennis court) and paddock of **NEARLY 9 ACRES**

Vacant Possession.

Lot 2.—The adjoining Agricultural Holding, "Tanyard Farms," with farmhouse building and **21 ACRES** (let).

Lot 3.—Superior Bungalow, "Coolen," with nearly **2 ACRES** (let).

Lot 4.—A choice Enclosure of about 2 acres, with 500 feet frontage to main road (let with farm).

Accommodation of Lot 1 comprises: Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. The grounds are particularly nice and well timbered.

Illustrated particulars with plan (2/-) may be had from the Solicitors: Messrs. O. H. SWANN & SON, Heathfield, Sussex; and from the Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1; or Messrs. E. WATSON AND SONS, Heathfield, Sussex.





# HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Regent 8222 (15 lines)

Telegrams: "Selaniet, Piccy, London"



## ABUTTING AND OVERLOOKING THE WELL-KNOWN ST. GEORGE'S HILL GOLF COURSE

High position. One mile of station with fast electric trains to Waterloo.



HEALTHY and INVIGORATING LOCALITY MIDST PINE and HEATHER  
250 feet up. Facing Private Estate of 600 Acres.

### COVERDALE, SUNNINGHILL

Lavishly fitted Freehold Residence with accommodation on two floors only, approached by long Drive.

Containing vestibule, hall, 4 fine reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 baths. Compact offices. All public services. Central and hot-water installations. Wash basins in bedrooms. Septic tank drainage. Cottage. Garage. Greenhouses, etc. Unobtrusive and secluded Gardens and Grounds with Woodland and Kitchen Garden.

### IN ALL ABOUT 3½ ACRES

#### WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Hampton & Sons will offer the above by Auction on the premises (prior to the Sale of the valuable contents) on 4 February, at 12 noon unless sold privately beforehand.  
Solicitors: Messrs. HISCOTT, TROUGHTON & PAGE, 11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, E.C.2. Auctioneers' Offices: 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1.

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM. 0081) BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243)

A beautifully appointed Residence of attractive elevation in first-class order. Oak-panelled Hall. Oak-panelled Lounge, 27 feet by 18 feet. Two other fine Reception Rooms. Cloakroom. Staff Sitting Room and up-to-date offices.

6 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS (with wash basins), DRESSING ROOM, 3 WELL-FITTED BATHROOMS. 4 STAFF ROOMS and BATHROOM. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS. SUPERIOR COTTAGE. LOVELY GROUNDS. STONE-FLAGGED TERRACE. TENNIS LAWN. ROCKERY WITH WATERFALL. TILED SWIMMING POOL. WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN GARDEN WITH HEATED GLASSHOUSE.

### WOODLAND 3½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £15,000 A LOVELY PROPERTY.

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222. (S.43972)

### WEST SURREY

4 miles from Guildford, secluded position close to station and bus service.

An attractive modern residence of pleasing elevation approached by drive. Lounge hall. 3 reception rooms with oak beams and polished block flooring. 7 bedrooms. 2 good bathrooms. Staff sitting-room. Kitchen and offices. Main electricity, gas and water. Modern drains.

Double garages. Workshop. Chauffeur's flat of 3 rooms and bathroom.

Easily maintained gardens. Tennis lawn. Kitchen garden, orchard, woodland.



### 3½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,995. EARLY POSSESSION

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## CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

(2/- per line. Min. 3 lines. Box fee 1/6.)

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St. Davids Estate, Red Wharf Bay. A unique Marine Estate of 40 acres with 1,500 yards of sea frontage and private beach. 2 residences viz. "St. Davids Cottage," a modern stone-built (1924) house of moderate size, and "Castle Bank," a modernised property. SALE BY AUCTION as a whole or in 2 LOTS, at the ANGLESEY ARMS HOTEL, MENAI BRIDGE, on FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1946, at 3.30 p.m.—Illustrated Sale Brochures from the Auctioneers.

#### MESSRS. RAGO & CO.,

Colwyn Bay, or GWILYM WILLIAMS, Estate Agent, Benllech (Tel.: TYNVONGL 72).

#### INVERNESS-SHIRE

For sale, the attractive Highland Fishing Hotel known as Whitebridge Hotel, Whitebridge, Inverness-shire. The hotel consists of a large dining room, 3 lounges, private sitting room, bar, smoke room, kitchen accommodation, 13 letting bedrooms, staff bedrooms, and sitting room, lock-up garages and petrol pumps. The Hotel is fully licensed, well equipped and situated in a lovely countryside. The subjects will be SOLD BY PUBLIC ROUP on TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, at 12 noon, within the offices of

#### SQUAIR MIDDLETON & CO.,

Solicitors, 2, Inglis Street, Inverness. For further particulars apply to Messrs. SQUAIR MIDDLETON & CO., Solicitors, Inverness.

### WANTED

COUNTRY. Wanted to Let on Lease, Country House within 1½ hours of London. 2-3 reception rooms, 8-9 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms. Not too much garden or land.—Box 661.

ESSEX, SUFFOLK, HERTS, BUCKS or HOME COUNTIES. Wanted to rent unfurnished on lease, a Period House, for choice with about 15 bedrooms, including servants', and good domestic offices, with up to 1,000 acres shooting. Early possession.—Particulars to TRUSTEE, c/o Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

HERTS, BUCKS or any County within reasonable distance of London. Wanted about June, 1946, a free House, preferably with accommodation for 20 persons, excluding staff, or alternatively a Country House suitable for conversion as such. Locality important provided well placed for trade.—Box "A". W. H. SMITH & SON, LTD., 92, The Promenade, Cheltenham.

HOME COUNTIES. Character Cottage required, Easter, 1946. 3-4 bedrooms, 2 reception, kitchen, bathrooms. Central heating and basins in bedrooms. Garage. About 3-4 acres, in nice hamlet or village. Good water. Store. Price for freehold.—Box 692.

### WANTED

HAM COMMON, PETERSHAM or KEW. Wanted, 7-8 bedroom House, 3 reception, garden essential. Freehold or trustee lease.—Box 714.

LONDON. About hour's main line rail, quiet position, high up with good views. Wanted, Country House, 4-5 bed, 2 good reception, modern conveniences. Double garage. Gardens and meadow or woodlands.—"M. E. E.", TRENIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

MIDDLESEX. Large Residence, 40 to 60 rooms, with some grounds. Suitable for Nursing Home. Write: Box 2025, c/o WHITE'S LTD., 72, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

MIDLANDS. Required, Country House, approximately 12 bedrooms, all services, or close proximity to services, grounds 20-30 acres, with or without home farm; good architectural character essential, preferably some tradition. Would consider property at present under requisition.—GREENFELL BAINES GROUP, Architects, 12, Guildhall Street, Preston, Lancs (Preston 56231).

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE. Within 20 miles of Birmingham. Wanted, Unfurnished House or Cottage to rent. 4-6 bedrooms and up to 10 acres of land.—Box 715.

S.W. ENGLAND, preferably Dorset. Wanted by Senior Naval Officer, pleasant Country House, to rent unfurnished. 5 to 6 bedrooms, 3 reception.—Box 641.

40 MILES LONDON (within). Unfurnished House or Cottage required. 4 or 5 bedrooms, sitting rooms and bathroom. Central heating. Good garden with gardener or garden help available. Advertiser keen gardener and good tenant. Please state rent required.—Box 660.

### FOR SALE

CUMBERLAND. In the beautiful John Peel County, on northern fringe of Lake District, 12 miles Carlisle. Exceptionally charming Old-world Residential Property, with or without 2 farms (50 and 184 acres) and woodlands (45 acres). Been renovated and modernised over years, with great taste; all genuine old features preserved. All modern conveniences. Perfect order. Secluded position. S.E. aspect. Approached short drive. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Pretty old-world garden, hard tennis court, 8 acres grass. Of particular appeal to lover of genuine old-world atmosphere. As a whole, most attractive residential and sporting estate, and admirably suitable gentleman-farmer.—W. L. TRENK & SONS, Chartered Surveyors, 1, The Crescent, Carlisle, or WM. HESKETT & SON, Chartered Land Agents, Penrith.

### FOR SALE

CORNWALL. Castle Hotel, Launceston (unlicensed), busy market town. 25 bedrooms, all usual offices, billiard room. Garages. Been in same family 30 years. Excellent opportunity. Vacant possession. Price £8,000.—KITTO & SON, Estate Agents, Launceston.

MID-KENT. Country House and 100-acre Farm, with accredited milk licence and live and dead stock, as going concern. £20,000. No agents.—Box 696.

NORTHANTS. 8 miles Rugby and 12 Northampton. Georgian House. Fine open situation. Hall, 4 reception, 11 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating throughout. Main electricity. Telephone. Good water and drainage. Garage, stabling and farm buildings, 3 cottages. Inexpensive gardens and grounds. Pasture and arable land and spinneys, in all 117 acres. Early possession. Freehold, £8,500.—JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, Estate Offices, Rugby.

SOMERSET, near Taunton. A well-appointed Georgian Residence for sale, in first-class condition. Delightful views of the Quantocks. 5 principal bedrooms, 4 staff bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, and usual offices. Central Heating and Main Services. Garaging and stabling. 2 cottages. Grounds with tennis court, paddock about 8 acres.—Apply: W. B. J. GREENSLADE & Co., 2, Hammet Street, Taunton.

SURREY-KENT BORDER, near Edenbridge. A superior Freehold Property comprising well designed house with 3 fine reception rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 main bedrooms, guest rooms, servants' quarters. Garage for 2 cars. Large goldfish pond. About ½ acre, including orchard. Short carriage drive. Mains electricity and water supply. An easily run smaller country home convenient distance London. Vacant possession. 6,500 guineas.—Box 691.

SURREY. PURLEY. Magnificently appointed modern "Show House" with almost every known refinement and labour-saving device. Features include walnut, sycamore, Nigerian cherry and other panelling, parquet floors, Italian marble fireplaces, etc. 5 bedrooms (all h. & c. basins), 2 reception (one 26 ft.), maid's sitting room. Completely equipped offices. Garage. Very fine terraced garden. Bargain at £6,500, freehold.—Sole Agents. MOORE & Co., Surveyors, Carshalton (Wallington 2606).

SUSSEX. HASSOCKS. Well built Modern House, standing in well matured garden. 2 reception, 5 bed (2 with h. & c.), garage, usual offices. All main services. Conservatory, greenhouse, Tennis court. Fruit trees, 3 mins. from main line railway station. Freehold, £5,000.—Box 697.

### FOR SALE

SUSSEX. CROWBOROUGH WARREN. In most favoured area. Delightful well built Freehold Residence with charming gardens of 2½ acres. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom and well arranged offices. Main services. Central heating. Garage and other buildings. Immediate vacant possession. £6,750. Most strongly recommended by the Owner's Agent: RODERICK T. INNES, Estate Offices, Crowborough (Tel. 46).

SUSSEX. With possession on completion, pre-war Detached Residence, in quiet road close to main line station and shops. 10 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms, good domestic offices. Central heating. All main services. About 1 acre garden with tennis court. Price £26,000, freehold.—Apply: ISAID, PRICE & DENNIS, Burgess Hill.

WINDSOR. Freehold Modern House, residential quarter. Excellent condition. 2 reception, 4 bedrooms. Garage, garden. Immediate possession.—Box 688.

WROTHAM. Site on London-Folkestone Arterial Road (London 25 miles). Very high, with splendid views of surrounding country. 10 acres, suitable for erection of country club or seclusion for private residence. Freehold, £2,000.—MARCUS KISS, F.A.I., Crayford, Kent (Bexleyheath 3333).

### TO LET

ISLE OF WIGHT. Unfurnished rooms at Sandlands, Seaview, overlooking Spithead. Full board. Comfortably furnished dining room, lounge, etc. Delightful garden. Close to sea, village, yachting, fishing, etc. Ryde bus stops at entrance.

ROXBURGHSHIRE. To Let unfurnished modernised Georgian Mansion House of "Chesters," Ancrum; 7 miles from St. Boswells, on River Teviot. 4 public rooms, 10 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Mains electricity. Central heating. Good water supply. Garages. Excellent stabling. Attractive garden and policies. Modern cottages. In Buccleuch Hunt. Fishing and mixed shooting.—Apply: G. T. L. OOLIVIE, F.L.A.S., Ettrick Shaws, Selkirkshire.

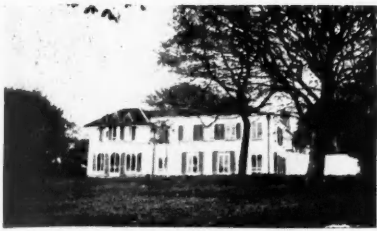
SURREY. To let, 4 rooms, kitchen, bath, etc., furnished. Lovely situation near Haslemere.—Reply: Box 713.

YORK (25 miles N.E. of). 3½ miles from railway at Kirbymoorside. Country Cottage, stone-built with pantile roof, in picturesque moorland village of Hutton-le-Hole. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, kitchen and washshed. Garden. Mains water, modern sanitation. To let furnished to careful tenant immediately for 6 months or longer at 2 guineas per week.—Apply: R. W. SMITH, Solicitor, Kirbymoorside, York.



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On two floors only, with hall, 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, usual offices, servants' sitting room. Electric Light. Co.'s Water. Central Heating. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS AND OTHER USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS. MAGNIFICENTLY TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS OF ABOUT 4 ACRES

(More land might be purchased.)

For Sale Freehold £10,000

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above.

(17614)

**GLOS AND HEREFORD BORDERS***In a splendid position, with views across the River Wye.***A DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER****Salmon and Trout Fishing in the Wye**

4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Electric light, main water. Central heating.

2 Cottages (let). Garage, stabling.

Pleasure gardens of about 2 acres, pasture, woodland, etc., in all about 18 ACRES.

FREEHOLD, ONLY £6,500

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (17610)

**WORCESTERSHIRE***In a splendid position commanding lovely views over the Severn Valley to the Cotswolds.***AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT HOUSE**

with 5 reception rooms, 10-12 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, usual offices, servants' sitting room.

Company's Electricity, Gas, and Drainage.

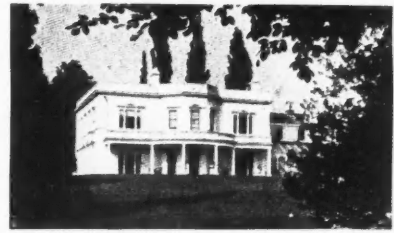
STABLING. GARAGE (WITH 5 ROOMS OVER). BUNGALOW (LET).

Well-timbered gardens and grounds, flower and kitchen gardens, rough hill land, etc., in all

ABOUT 8 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (17624)

**PINKNEY'S GREEN, MAIDENHEAD THICKET***In a delightful position well above the river valley in an unspoilt situation yet within easy reach of Town. Adjoining a large area of National Trust land.***AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE OF DISTINCTIVE ARCHITECTURE**

Extremely well fitted and modernised, with lounge, hall, 3 fine reception rooms, 13 bed and dressing rooms, 3 baths.

Main Electricity and Water. Central Heating. Cottage. Chauffeur's flat. Garages. Stabling. Lovely old Gardens, inexpensive to maintain, and including wide, spreading lawns.

Walled Rose Garden, unique private Maze. Hard Tennis Court, orchard, paddock, meadow, etc., in all ABOUT 12 ACRES

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, £12,500

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER, as above. (17592)

23, MOUNT ST.,  
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1**WILSON & CO.**Grosvenor  
1441**DORSET, Near LYME REGIS**

GLORIOUS POSITION, 450 FEET UP with wonderful sea views over 30 miles coastline. Charming House of Georgian character: 11 beds, 4 baths, 4 reception. In good order. With central heating, main services. Secondary house, 2 cottages. Finely timbered gardens, pasture and woods. For Sale with

41 ACRES

Sole Agents: WILSON &amp; Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

**ARCHES MANOR, FRAMFIELD**

LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX between Tunbridge Wells and Lewes. Charming small Tudor Manor carefully restored; fine old oak beams, panelling.

8 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHS, 3 RECEPTION. MAIN ELECTRICITY. CENTRAL HEATING. Home Farm and 2 cottages. About 146 ACRES

Possession of house and grounds. For sale privately, or by Auction later.

Sole Agents: WILSON &amp; Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

3, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1**RALPH PAY & TAYLOR**Grosvenor  
1032-33**FRINTON-ON-SEA WITHIN 4 MILES***On high ground. 1½ miles S'ation.*

SOJNDLY CONSTRUCTED PERIOD HOUSE Entirely upon two floors. 4 reception (beams), 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Servants' wing. Main electricity and water. Garages. Large building as studio (would convert into cottage) EASILY MAINTAINED GARDEN OF 1½ ACRES (up to 20 acres adjoining can be purchased).

FREEHOLD, £7,750

POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Joint Agents: C. M. STANFORD &amp; SON, Colchester (Tel. 3165)

RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR (as above).

**SURREY HILLS***35 minutes London Bridge.*

PICTURESQUE TUDOR-STYLE HOUSE with HORSHAM STONE ROOF. ARCHITECT DESIGNED. Built 1937.

Hall, large lounge, dining recess, 4 bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices. Central heating and all main services. Lovely oak floors. Garage. PRETTY GARDEN BOUNDED BY WOODLAND. FREEHOLD, £4,950.

EARLY POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR (as above).

**ELECTRIC SERVICES to WATERLOO***Under half an hour. Close to Golf.*

OF PECULIAR CHARM (FRENCH STYLE) Ready to occupy. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Annex of 5 rooms and bathroom (suitable for staff). All services. Central heating. Garages.

MATURED GARDENS, tennis lawn and paved terraces. Kitchen garden, orchard and woodland.

ABOUT 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD, £7,750

POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

Owner's Authorised Agents: RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR (as above).

184, BROMPTON ROAD,  
LONDON, S.W.3.**BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY**Kensington  
0152-3**KENT  
Near Canterbury  
GENUINE QUEEN ANNE  
IN EXCELLENT ORDER**

3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. All rooms large and attractive. Main services. Well-timbered gardens. Fruit trees, garden, tennis court, etc.

5½ ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD, £5,500

Immediate inspection advised.

BENTALL, HORSLEY &amp; BALDRY,

184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

**NEAR BARNSTAPLE, DEVON****GENTLEMAN'S SMALL DAIRY AND MIXED FARM OF 100 ACRES,**

WATERED BY STREAMS.

DELIGHTFUL RESIDENCE, STONE-BUILT, all on two floors. 2 reception, 6 bed, bath (h. & c.). Modern drainage. Ample water. Very good Farm Buildings.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD, £5,400

Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY AND BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3.

**WEST SUSSEX****CHARMING SMALL MANSION**

Eminently suitable to a purchaser requiring large rooms and plenty of accommodation for scholastic or similar purposes.

MOST IMPOSING dark red brick with ornamental chimney stacks standing in lovely grounds of 9 ACRES enjoying beautiful views. 4 fine reception, 16 bed, 4 bathrooms. Parquet floors. Central heating. Co.'s water. Main electricity available. Garage, stabling. Pair cottages and all amenities. More land available.

FREEHOLD, £9,000

BENTALL, HORSLEY &amp; BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

**CHOICE RESIDENTIAL FARM,  
40 ACRES. NEAR HASTINGS**

and favourite old Market Town. Rich grass with 2 acres orchards. Attractive brick and tile residence in garden with tennis lawn. 3 reception, 4 bed, bath (h. & c.). MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND CO.'S WATER. Good dairy buildings. Present owner 30 years. Just available with possession.

Asking £5,750 FREEHOLD. A purchaser could retain 15 ACRES with the house to form a most attractive holding and let off 25 acres.

BENTALL, HORSLEY &amp; BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).



Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)**GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS**

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1.

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.  
West Halkin St.,  
Belgrave Sq.  
and 68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1**EAST SUFFOLK**

This PERFECT EXAMPLE of ELIZABETHAN ARCHITECTURE



Hall, lounge hall, dining and drawing rooms, library, justice room and billiard room, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, good domestic offices with servants' hall.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, MAIN WATER, MAIN DRAINAGE, CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGES, STABLING FOR FIVE LODGE, CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT, USEFUL BUILDINGS.

The beautiful Gardens and Grounds are a feature of the Property.

Lawns, water garden, lily pond, Dutch garden, rose garden, LAKE & ROCK GARDEN.

Excellent kitchen gardens with glasshouses. **IN ALL ABOUT 14 ACRES.**

**FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, WITH POSSESSION.** Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (5779).

**SURREY-HANTS BORDER****PICTURESQUE LONG LOW RESIDENCE WITH LARGE HALL**

Cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, good offices, with staff sitting room, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING. Garage. Stabling and chauffeur's flat. Grounds of about **5½ ACRES**, including orchard and meadow.

**ONLY £6,000 WITH POSSESSION**

Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE &amp; SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (C.3073)

**KENT—NEAR EDENBRIDGE****FAMILY RESIDENCE, SITUATED 500 FEET UP**

Containing hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, 3 modern bathrooms, CENTRAL HEATING. ALL MAIN SERVICES. Heated garage for 4 cars. Gardens of **1¼ ACRES**. Just de-requisitioned. **£4,500**, with benefit of claim.

Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE &amp; SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (A. 2236)

**F. L. MERCER & CO.**

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2481

**AMIDST SURREY'S PINES AND HEATHER**

Splendidly built modern residence, remodelled in 1926, suitable as a private residence or institutional purposes.



In a quiet, yet convenient, situation half a mile from station and shops in the centre of exceptionally well-timbered gardens and grounds of **16 ACRES**. 14 bed., 5 bath., billiard and 3 large reception rooms. Complete domestic offices. All main services. Central heating. Secondary residence. 6 rooms (det). Garage. Stabling, flat over. Productive gardens. Three hard tennis courts surrounded by woodland.

**PRICE £20,000**  
**FREEHOLD**  
**POSSESSION**

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. CHANCELLOR & SONS, 26, High Street, Camberley (Tel.: 1230) and F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, London, W.1 (Tel.: Regent 2481).

**250 YEAR OLD HOUSE**

Only 12 miles London.

Surrey. High position, absolutely rural, yet only **1½ miles** Surbiton or Esher Main Line Stations, with bus services connecting. A period Cottage of pleasing character, modernised, and well-equipped.

3 reception, 6-7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main services. Garage. Old-world features throughout. Charming garden, lawns, and paddock.

**FOUR ACRES**  
**PRICE £8,000**

**FREEHOLD.**  
Possession 3 months.

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER &amp; Co., 40, Piccadilly, London, W.1 (Tel.: Regent 2481)

Grosvenor 2638  
(2 lines)**TURNER LORD & RANSOM**

127, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams:  
Turloran, Audley, London.

With Vacant Possession.

**A SECLUDED RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE**

On high ground. Views over meadowland.

9 Bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, music or billiard room. Domestic offices. Parquet flooring.

**Central Heating and Hot Water. Main Electricity and Water**

Garage. Dry Boat-house.

**4 ACRES****FREEHOLD FOR SALE****Vacant Possession. VIEWS OVER THE WILTSHIRE DOWNS**

Convenient for Warminster and fast trains to London. Country House. Modern Improvements. Labour-saving.



6 Bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, servants' sittingroom. Excellent offices. Two staircases. **Central Heating. Main Water and Electricity. 4 ACRES. Paddocks, Garage, etc. FREEHOLD.**

Vacant Possession.

**ESSEX****MODERNISED GEORGIAN HOUSE**

Panoramic views, high ground. Near Golf.

6 Principal and 3 other bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Offices.

**MAIN WATER AND GAS. OWN ELECTRICITY.****GARAGES. STABLING.****3 ACRES****FREEHOLD FOR SALE****WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER**

CHARTERED SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS, CRAWLEY, SUSSEX (Tel. No. 2)

**SUSSEX**

Outskirts of, small town, convenient for station and shops.

**TO BE LET UNFURNISHED****CHARMING OLD-WORLD HOUSE**

Thoroughly modernised in keeping with its character.

6 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms, 4 Reception Rooms.  
Domestic arrangements planned for easy working.

All Main Services.

Central heating. Garage for three. Good garden with pond and plantation.

**RENT £300 PER ANNUM****AVAILABLE END FEBRUARY**

Orders to View from the Agents, as above.  
Tel.: Crawley (Sussex) 2.

**SURREY**

Choice position just south of Hindhead, overlooking Trust Land.

**MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE**

8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception, maids' sitting room.  
Ample offices.

Garage for 2. Gardener's Cottage. Gardens and Woodland.

**ABOUT 5 ACRES**

Main Water and Electricity.

**PRICE £9,500****VACANT POSSESSION, MARCH**

Orders to View from the Agents, as above.

Tel.: Crawley (Sussex) 2.

**ST. LEONARD'S FOREST**

Within daily reach of Horsham

**SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE**

8 bedrooms (3 with fitted basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

Central Heating. Main Electric Light and Water.

Garage with flat over. Stabling. Pleasure and Kitchen Gardens.

Grassland and Rough Woodland.

**ABOUT 10 ACRES****PRICE £7,500****VACANT POSSESSION**

Orders to View from the Agents, as above.

Tel.: Crawley (Sussex) 2.

5, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1

## CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)  
Established 1915

**ABOUT 24 MILES NORTH WEST OF LONDON. WITHIN EASY DAILY REACH**

*1 mile from Main Line Station. 550 feet up on a light subsoil.*

Enjoying complete seclusion.  
Sheltered by belts of attractive  
woodland.

### A WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE

10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge,  
3 reception rooms, main electric  
light, power, gas, water and  
drainage.

Lodge. Garages. Outbuildings.  
Charming well-timbered Gardens  
and miniature Park.



**FREEHOLD FOR SALE.**

**ABOUT 20 ACRES.**

**VACANT POSSESSION.**

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5 MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Telephone: Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)

**SURVEYORS  
AND VALUERS**

## EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS

**LAND AND  
ESTATE AGENTS**

36, BERKELEY STREET, LONDON, W.1. MAYFAIR 0016

### BUCKS-BEDS BORDERS

*On fringe of Whaddon Chase country.*



**HOUSE OF CHARACTER** in excellent condition,  
with 2 reception rooms, 3 principal and 2 secondary  
bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. Main ser-  
vices. Garage for 3 cars. Stabling. Cottage. Delightful  
grounds, including lawns, prolific orchard, paddock, etc..

**In all 4 ACRES**

**VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.**  
**PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD.**

Sole Agents: EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.

### KENT

*London 22 miles. Fast electric train service.*



**MODERN GEORGIAN STYLE RESIDENCE** with  
lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bath-  
rooms. CENTRAL HEATING and PARQUET FLOOR-  
ING THROUGHOUT. Main services. Garage for 2  
cars. Stabling. Tennis court. Orchard. Bus passes  
within 500 yards. Half mile town, one mile station.  
**PRICE £9,000 FREEHOLD with 2 ACRES, or**  
**£13,000 with 8 ACRES and 6-roomed COTTAGE.**  
Particulars: EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.

### NORTH BUCKS

*6 miles Blechley. Edge of village.*



**CHARMING OLD HOUSE IN THE HEART OF  
THE WHADDON CHASE COUNTRY**, 3 reception  
rooms 7 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity and  
water. Garage. **10 ACRES. HOME FARM** with 2 cot-  
tages and outbuildings (7 other cottages available).  
**121 ACRES** (tenant would remain).  
**PRICE £10,000 for house and 10 acres.**  
**£15,000 for whole.**  
Particulars: EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.

## FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Central  
9344/5/6/7

(Established 1799)

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.  
29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams:

"Farebrother, London"

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*Convenient for Station. London 23 miles.*

### A HOUSE OF CHARACTER

7 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bath-  
rooms. 4 reception rooms.

CAPACIOUS OFFICES.

2 GARAGES.

COMPANIES' WATER.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GAS.

MODERN DRAINAGE.



### MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDENS

affording ample protection.

The whole extending to about

**3 1/4 ACRES**

Vacant Possession:

March 25, 1946.

**TO BE SOLD**

**FREEHOLD**

**£9,000**

(Subject to Contract).

Further Particulars from the Agents: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Telephone: Central 9344.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1  
(Euston 7000)

## MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1  
(Regent 4685)



### SURREY HILLS

*In a secure and unspoilt district only 17 miles from town, sheltered  
position, 450 ft. above sea level, on a southern slope of the hill.*

### A REALLY CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

in excellent condition, ready for immediate occupation.  
Hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bath-  
rooms, 2 attic rooms. Main services. Partial central  
heating. Brick-built garage for two cars.  
Delightful terraced gardens, very productive, and well  
designed with ornamental ponds, tennis lawn, well grown  
trees, kitchen garden, etc.

**IN ALL ABOUT 1 1/4 ACRES. FREEHOLD TO BE  
SOLD. Strictly moderate price for quick sale**

Strongly recommended by the Agents: Messrs. C. & F.  
RUTLEY, Wokingham Station, Surrey, and MAPLE & CO., LTD.

### "MIRAFLORES"

9, GRANGE ROAD, BUSHEY, HERTS.

*A few minutes walk from Bushey & Oxhey Station, close to  
bus service, near several well-known Golf Courses.*

**FOR SALE, FREEHOLD**

### A REALLY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE

on two floors only. Lounge hall with oak floor and panelled  
walls. Drawing room. Dining room. 6 bedrooms. Good  
bathroom, etc. Electric light and power. Central heating.  
Good garage. Attractive garden inexpensive to maintain.

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION early in the New Year  
unless previously disposed of.**

Agents: MAPLE & CO., 5, Grafton Street, Old Bond St., W.1

Telegrams;  
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo,  
London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair, 6341  
(10 lines)

## FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE RESIDENCE

### BETWEEN OXFORD AND BANBURY

1 mile main G.W.R. Station, 5 from Banbury.

### BEAUTIFULLY BUILT TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE

Situate 400 ft. above sea level, faces south and east, and approached by 40-yard carriage drive.



Hall, garden hall, cloak-room, 3 reception rooms, modern offices, 6 bed, 2 bath, box room, etc. Modern drainage. Excellent water.

Company's gas. Main electricity available.

Bungalow, garage, gardens with tennis court, walled kitchen garden, orchard, paddock.

NEARLY 5 ACRES

PRICE £8,750

Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (50,906)

## DORKING UNDER 2 MILES

High secluded position with lovely panoramic views.

WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS WITH GROVE OF BOX TREES.

WELL-BUILT, EASILY RUN ROOMY HOUSE



In excellent condition. 3 reception rooms, hall (all with parquet floors), 3 large bedrooms in suites with bathroom and dressing-room. 2 single bedrooms. 3 maids' bedrooms with bathroom. Gas fires and central heating. Gas and electric light. Main water. Modern drainage.

GOOD STABLING. GARAGE for 4. 5-ROOMED COTTAGE WITH BATH-ROOM.

Vines and Greenhouses.

IN ALL ABOUT 4 ACRES

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £10,000

POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (22,202)

## JUST AVAILABLE

### BUCKS

### BETWEEN BEACONSFIELD AND PENN

Facing a small green. On bus route.

Particularly Attractive Property in first-class condition.

FOR SALE,

FREEHOLD

Good hall, raftered living-room (33 ft. by 26 ft.) and 3 other ground-floor rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services and part central heating.



Charming secluded grounds of nearly

4 ACRES

EARLY VACANT POSSESSION.

Highly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (41,573)

## COUNTY DURHAM—TEES-SIDE

### DELIGHTFUL QUEEN ANNE MANOR HOUSE

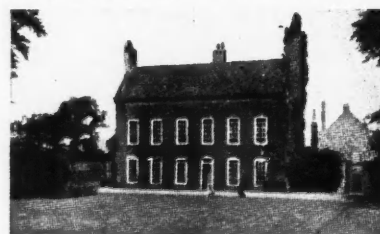
Close to, but secluded from, a picturesque village 3 miles from important main line station.

3 sitting rooms (one 30 ft. 6 ins. by 21 ft. 6 ins.), 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. Central heating throughout. Very good outbuildings and 2 cottages with baths, etc.

Walled gardens, hard and grass tennis courts and paddock.

OVER 7 ACRES

£8,000



POSSESSION MID-MAY, 1946

Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (83,058)

## TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861.

Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

**£5,750 (or near offer) FREEHOLD** 5 ACRES DELIGHTFUL COTSWOLDS. 4 miles main line. Bus service passes. **WOLD STONE HOUSE.** Hall, 2 reception, 1-2 bath, 6 bed (2 fitted b. and c.). All main services. Telephone. Part central heating. Garage, stable. Charming grounds, well timbered and stocked, kitchen garden and paddock. Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,154)

**SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL, NURSING HOME, RESIDENCE, ETC. £4,500** BERKS. 1½ miles Aylesbury Station. **WELL-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE** in good order. Hall, 4 reception, 2 bathrooms, 11 bedrooms. All main services. Central heating. Telephone. Garage. Gardens and woodland. From 4-5 ACRES. 42 years' lease at £45 p.a. Inspected and recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,368)

**YORKS.** Best part of Harrogate, in part of ancient forest of Knaresborough. **EXCELLENT ARCHITECT-BUILT RESIDENCE.** Oak panellied hall, 3 good reception, 4 bathrooms, 7 bedrooms. All main services. Telephone, central heating. Garage for 2, chauffeur's quarters. Magnificently timbered grounds, intersected by stream with waterfalls. Orchard, kitchen and fruit garden, and paddock. An offer of **£6,750** is invited for this exceptional **FREEHOLD PROPERTY**, with vacant possession.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

**£6,500 WITH POSSESSION** NORTH BUCKS, between Aylesbury and Bicester. Charming old **QUEEN ANNE HOUSE** in village. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bath, 5 bed (2 fitted basins). Garage, stabling. Attractive gardens, tennis. Kitchen garden, orchard, and paddock. **6 ACRES.** Another paddock and cottage available.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,077)

## WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAUGRAVE STREET, READING.

Reading 2920 & 4112

### HAYWARDS HEATH TO HORSHAM

**LOVELY POSITION 400 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL** in St. Leonard's Forest, with magnificent views. Century-old house containing 3-4 reception, cloak, good offices with maids' sitting room, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Co.'s water, central heating. Electric light, garage, stabling. Choice gardens, hard tennis court.

**7 ACRES, FREEHOLD, £7,500**

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

### TUDOR HOUSE IN COTSWOLDS

**NEAR VILLAGE** and convenient for main line. 350 feet up, wonderful views. 3 reception (one oak panellied), complete offices, 10 bedrooms (7 basins b. & c.), 3 bathrooms. All main services. Central heating. Cottage, garage, outbuildings. Lovely grounds, kitchen garden.

**3 ACRES, FREEHOLD. £6,750 OR OFFER**

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

## JOSEPH LOWRY & SONS M.I.A.A.

RESIDENTIAL HOLDINGS AND FARMS from 30 to 800 ACRES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR LETTING IN HUNTING, FISHING AND SHOOTING DISTRICTS.

Auctioneers, etc., KELLS, Co. MEATH. Phone 4.

By Direction of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

## BETWEEN CAMBRIDGE AND NEWMARKET

### THE ATTRACTIVE SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

## "SHRUBLANDS," LITTLE WILBRAHAM,

### WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

HALL, 2 SITTING ROOMS, 5 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOMS, 2 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, GARAGE, STABLING AND OUTBUILDINGS, MAIN WATER AND MAIN ELECTRICITY

ACCOMMODATION PASTURE LAND

IN ALL ABOUT 9 ACRES

AS A WHOLE OR IN 2 LOTS

FOR SALE BY AUCTION ON SATURDAY, 19th JANUARY, 1946, AT CAMBRIDGE.

Particulars from the Auctioneers:

Messrs. BIDWELL & SONS

Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents.

Head Office: 2 King's Parade, Cambridge, and at Ely and Ipswich, also at 49, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1



## ESTATE

Kensington 1490  
Telegrams :  
"Estate, Harrods, London"

## HARRODS

34-36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

## OFFICES

Surrey Offices :  
West Byfleet  
and Haslemere



## FARNHAM

c.2

*Convenient for town and station. Excellent train service to London.*

## ATTRACTIVE WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE

3 RECEPTION, BILLIARDS ROOM, 8 BEDROOMS,  
3 BATHROOMS. ALL MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL  
HEATING. DOUBLE GARAGE. GARDENER'S  
COTTAGE.



VERY BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS OF ABOUT 3½ ACRES  
FOR SALE FREEHOLD VACANT POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 803).

## LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS. c.3



## A CHARMING RESIDENCE

in excellent order, amidst pleasant surroundings.  
3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT. CO.'S  
WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE. MATURED  
GARDEN, LAWNS, FLOWER BEDS, KITCHEN  
GARDEN.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

EARLY POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 807.)

## NR. BANSTEAD

c.5



*Easy reach two stations.*

MODERN ARCHITECT-  
DESIGNED RESIDENCE

2 RECEPTION, 4 BEDS., BATH, ALL MAINS.  
GARAGE. CONSERVATORY.

Well laid out garden with lawn, flower beds, ornamental  
trees and shrubs.

IN ALL ABOUT ¾ ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 810.)

## WEST SUSSEX

c.4



*In the beautiful Fittleworth and Palborough district.*

CHARMING STONE-BUILT  
MANOR HOUSE

LOUNGE HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 10 BED AND  
DRESSING ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, COMPLETE  
OFFICES. CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.  
TELEPHONE. GOOD GARAGE AND STABLE  
ACCOMMODATION.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS WITH FORMAL GARDENS,  
TERRACE GARDEN, LAWNS, PASTURELAND

in all ABOUT 16 ACRES

PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent,  
S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 806.)

## OVERLOOKING A HERTS c.3

## GOLF COURSE

*In a much-sought-after district, only about 40 mins. by rail  
from town with main-line service.*



## IMPOSING MODERN RESIDENCE

DESIGNED IN TUDOR STYLE.

3 reception, loggia, 5 bedrooms (2 with h. and c.), nursery,  
2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating.

DOUBLE GARAGE. BEAUTIFUL GARDEN,  
SPECIALLY DESIGNED BY LANDSCAPE GARDENER  
MANY FEATURES

In all about 2¼ ACRES

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD

Strongly recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans  
Crescent, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 807.)

## KINGSWOOD AND WALTON c.4

## HEATH



*Easy reach of station, 600 ft up.*

## FASCINATING RESIDENCE

on two floors only.

GOOD HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS (with parquet  
floors), 5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, USUAL OFFICES.  
CENTRAL HEATING. ALL COMPANIES' MAINS.  
2 DETACHED GARAGES.

Inexpensive Grounds with lawns, kitchen garden, etc.,

in all ONE ACRE

£6,000 FREEHOLD

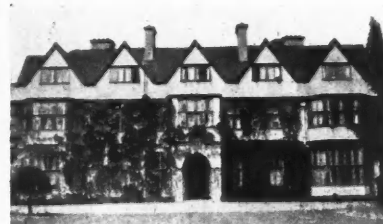
EARLY POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 806.)

## BYFLEET

By/c.2

*Adjoining Pyrford Common and West Byfleet Golf Course,  
convenient to Woking and Byfleet Stations. Waterloo  
30-40 mins.*

EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED  
RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

Standing on crest of hill, approached by secluded carriage  
drive.

10 BED, 4 BATH, 4 RECEPTION, AMPLE OFFICES.  
AGA COOKER. COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING.  
MAIN SERVICES. 2 COTTAGES. GARAGE FOR  
4 CARS. STABLING.

INEXPENSIVE GARDENS AND GROUNDS OF ABOUT

5½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £11,000

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

HARRODS LTD., West Byfleet (Tel. 149); or 34-36, Hans  
Crescent, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490, Extn. 809).

**BOURNEMOUTH**  
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
E. STODDART FOX, F.A.S.I., F.A.I.  
H. INSLEY-FOX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.

# FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS  
BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

**SOUTHAMPTON**  
ANTHONY B. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
T. BRIAN COX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.  
**BRIGHTON**  
A. KILVINGTON, F.A.L.P.A.

## SPINNYCROFT, OXSHOTT SURREY

Occupying a quiet and secluded rural position in a much favoured district of Surrey.  
30 minutes Waterloo. Station 1 mile.

**MAGNIFICENT PANORAMIC VIEW**  
**A MOST ATTRACTIVE DETACHED MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE**  
(specially built for the present owner)



5 BEDROOMS, TILED  
BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, STUDY.  
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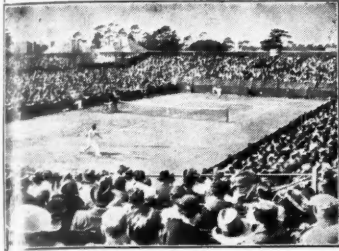
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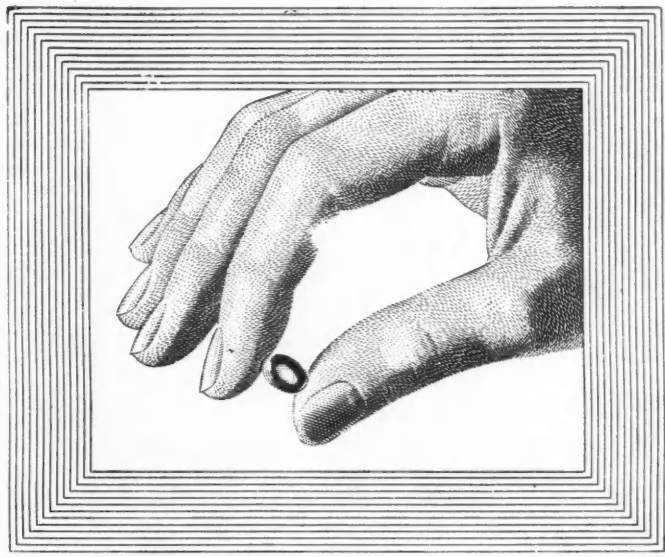


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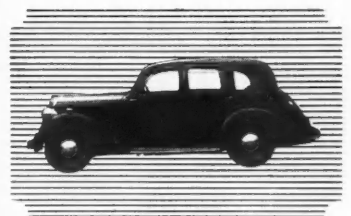
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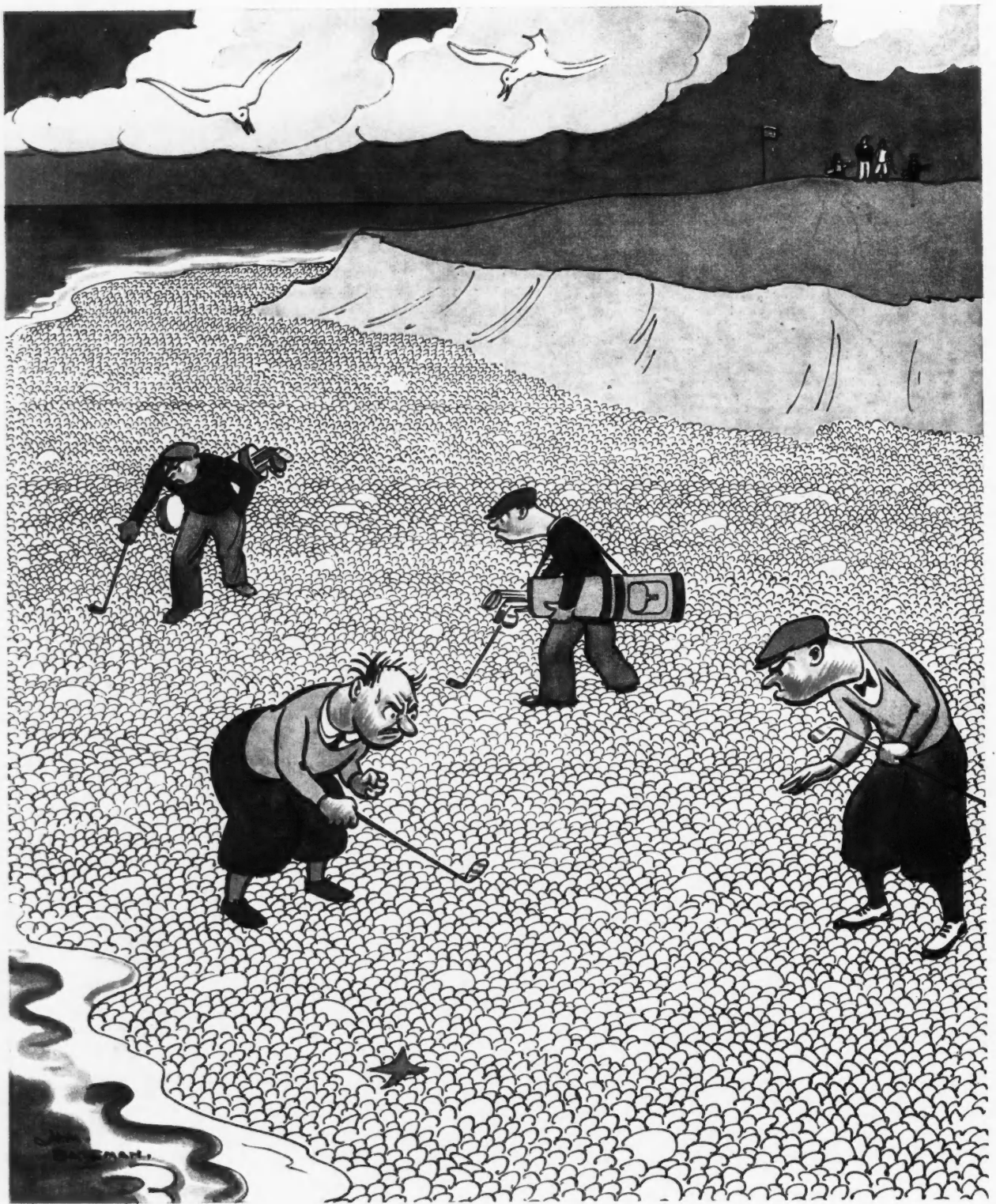
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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIX. No. 2556

JANUARY 11, 1946



*Jas. Bacon & Sons*

## MISS JEAN MARION HAMILTON-DALRYMPLE

Miss Jean Marion Hamilton-Dalrymple is the younger daughter of Sir Hew Hamilton-Dalrymple, Bt., and Lady Hamilton-Dalrymple, of Leuchie, North Berwick, Haddingtonshire. Her engagement to Major the Hon. Michael Fitzalan-Howard, Scots Guards, second son of Lord Howard of Glossop and Baroness Beaumont, Carlton Towers, Yorkshire, has recently been announced.



# COUNTRY LIFE

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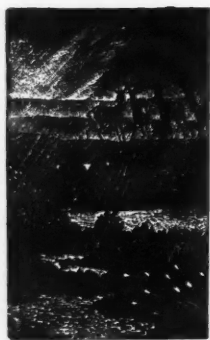
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## PUBLIC BEAUTY

THE controversies over Ennerdale and the commons devastated or still occupied by the Army, prompt the question whether or not it is possible to establish a firm, generally acceptable principle of judgment on these recurrent clashes of public amenity and material national benefit. The utilisation of water, whether for power or supply, which has already provoked heated discussion both in the Highlands and at Westminster, will inevitably raise the issue repeatedly in the future; and that of commons is only one of the increasing national claims on the limited land-area of the country which, together with those of new roads, new aerodromes, new towns, and so on, are in opposition to the claims of aesthetics (in the widest sense of the term) for preserving scenery whether in National Parks or as farm land. It is essential to a solution that sectional aspects be avoided; there is no antithesis between the needs of the "toiling worker" and the "leisured sentimentalist," for the two are the same person only differently dressed, notwithstanding the fact that the actual majority of people are gregarious rather than contemplative, and always will be. Nor does he who passionately contends for spiritual values deny the inescapable needs of material progress and physical benefit; he too is almost invariably the champion of each according to his clothes. There is no dualism. Both needs are weighty. What is required is a scale in which to balance them, and, by the nature of the process, separate them instead of trying to put one on top of the other.

Ennerdale is a lake with an individuality and quiet of its own, its waters of peculiar purity and on their very brink the solitary Angler's Inn. The irregular margins of the lake commend it particularly to lovers of the picturesque. A few miles away, in the hitherto distressed area of Whitehaven, war factories have brought employment to the long-suffering people of West Cumberland, for the switching of which to peace-time production, and for the needs of the people, it is required to utilise Ennerdale's wasted out-flow. More; for technical reasons it is needed to raise the lake's level by five feet. This would submerge the Inn and, say the lakemen, do away with the beauty of the lake's marshy foot, involving an ugly dam, if not roads, pylons and other industrial trophies. There is no intention, be it noted, to plant the factories by the lake. What is really at stake is the nature of the views up, and especially down, the lake, whether in the latter soft margins with a pastoral landscape beyond are to be replaced by the hard line of a dam. It is a problem for landscape architects in collaboration with

engineers, which it should not pass the wit of men who devised Mulberry—and the reconstructed Thirlmere—to surmount with the help of artists. After all, the outflow of the pipe line need not be at the foot of the lake at all, and the Angler's Inn can, if necessary, be rebuilt stone by stone on the new shore.

Here, then, two principles are illustrated; that industry is not to be established within a National Park area; and that, where landscape is to be altered, a landscape architect should be consulted from the outset of a scheme. From which proceeds a third, that where reasonable additional expenditure can ensure the preservation of amenities, it should be incumbent upon the developing concern to pay. The case of the commons is at once simpler and more complex, for some have been virtually devastated already by their war-time uses, and, if the international set-up demands the maintenance of large armed forces, these must go somewhere, the other where possibly being even more embarrassing than the present where. But, *mutatis mutandis*, the same principles apply: that State services must not be permanently established on public land; that landscape architecture be considered in the process of replacement; and that the necessary expenditure for that restitution is incumbent upon the vacating concern. There will be cases—perhaps the *impasse* of Killiecrankie was one—where the scales are so heavily weighted on both sides that the balance breaks, yet even then the principles indicate the ameliorating measure to be applied. But in most, they can and should be made the test of a proposal's acceptance or rejection.

## THE BONFIRE

*NOW on the heap, I cast not only leaves,  
But many another cluttering, useless thing.  
So, with the worn-out stems of Summer, burn  
My faded flowers long hoarded from the Spring.  
Frail hopes and out-lived memories and joys,  
Dreams without meaning and the wreck of tears.  
With ghosts of daisies and the tarnished gold  
Of Autumn, burn my yester years.*

*And I am glad to see the ashes there,  
A clean purged space where the keen frost may lay  
His lovely lacquer and the winds may blow  
Until there dawn a milder, fairer day,  
When once again I may plant out with care  
Small seeds of treasure, shielding leaves to be  
And pray that from the ashes of the past  
Will spring one flower of immortality.*

IRENE H. LEWIS.

## SAVE THE CALVES

THE Council of Agriculture for England is a sensible body drawn from the leading men in all the counties, and when they say that the new grass and clover leys being established everywhere might carry up to a hundred per cent. more stock in many cases, the Ministry of Agriculture and indeed the whole farming community should take notice in good time. The Council points to the large numbers of calves still being purchased for slaughter by the Ministry of Food. The total for 1944-5 was 1,267,200. Over three-quarters of these were bull calves, which no doubt, because they came from dairy herds, were not thought worth rearing. In present circumstances, with a world shortage of meat and the prospect of prolific keep from young leys for several years to come, more of these bull calves should certainly be saved and reared. We pride ourselves on our dual-purpose herds. Most of the commercial cows in the country are Shorthorns that are not exclusively dairy in type. Their calves, given a good start in life, would make useful grazing beasts to turn to good account the grazing and hay from the new leys. The Minister of Agriculture should be thinking seriously about the most effective incentives that could be given to farmers to rear more calves. Milk selling now looks one of the most profitable lines in farming, and few farmers want to rob the milk churn to rear more calves. It would be sound national policy to adapt to calf-rearing the principle of the acreage payment applied to potatoes and wheat

during the war to cover production costs that were not ordinarily economical. A premium on every calf reared during the next two years would yield a rich dividend.

## COASTAL INDUSTRIES

THE appeal made by various "coastal areas" that they should have light industries diverted in their direction, has drawn attention once more to the question of seasonal unemployment at "holiday resorts." Many local authorities in such places dislike any idea of industrial development—however "light"—taking the view that visitors from industrial areas like to get away from what they are accustomed to at home. The arrangement of "staggered" holidays with pay should lengthen and even out the holiday seasons, and from this point of view has a directly economic part to play quite apart from the solution of problems of accommodation and transport. All this, of course, emphasises the need to secure planned provision for holidays on a national scale. The Minister representing the Board of Trade talked the other day of millions of people of all nationalities visiting England to see the place where the great world struggle was definitely decided, and suggested that the representatives of all places which have special attractions and resources for the entertainment of visitors should already be getting together in order to work out plans to meet the demands which are likely to be made by the enormous goodwill towards this country which now prevails throughout the world. Unless some such effort is made at once a great national asset may well be frittered away.

## BRADMAN REDIVIVUS

THERE has lately come from Australia a piece of news at once cheerful and alarming, in which the cheerfulness far outstrips the alarm. Don Bradman has begun to play cricket again, just as well apparently as if he had never left off. In his first game since 1941 he made 68 and 52 not out for South Australia against Queensland. In his second he added one more to his long list of hundreds, 112 against the Australian Services at Adelaide. We had been told that fibrositis had put an end to his cricket and he himself had declared his Test Match day over, so that we had become almost resigned to never seeing that great scoring machine in action again. The bowlers may have given a little involuntary sigh of relief, but everybody was sorry and now everybody will be glad. Our next touring team was probably in for a hard time in any case, unless we could discover in the interval a new Larwood or a new Tate. Now it seems that it will be more strenuous still, but that matters little. A Test Match without Bradman on the other side would have hardly seemed the real thing.

## HOPE DEFERRED

"MANY a time I've dreamed of cheese," said Ben Gunn, who had been marooned on Treasure Island, "toasted mostly, and then woke up and here I were." Many have dreamed of cheese during the long years of the war, of Stilton, with its veins as of marble, of the blue glories of Cheshire or the unctuous beauties of Camembert. Once the war was over we believed that those dreams might swiftly come true, but it seems that we must wait a little longer, content, as far as may be, with honest "mouse-trap." It has lately been explained to us that two paramount necessities of cheese-making still obstruct the realisation of our hopes; one is the need for long-keeping quality and the other for the maximum yield from the milk. Well, so be it; we must not grumble and must go on hoping. And when all is said, the plain, yellow, slightly soapy cheese, habitually called by an irreverent name, has served us well. Our gratitude for it may be measured by our complaints that we could not get enough of it and our jealousy of the agricultural worker who got more. Young persons under eighteen are now receiving bananas and some day perhaps our more sophisticated wants will likewise be satisfied. The Stilton will taste all the better when it comes at last.





F. S. Smythe

"CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND?" THE LANGDALE PIKES

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

A QUESTION which will—or certainly should—arise very shortly, is how to re-lay-out farm land on the many aerodromes which will be relinquished as being unnecessary in peace-time. The Ibsley aerodrome, in the Avon Valley, is, I hope, one which will be released as it has put out of production over a square mile of some of the richest land in Hampshire, and is, I am told, too small for the great majority of the aircraft in use to-day. A hopeful sign is that some time after V.E. day the whole of the runways were re-bitumenised and covered with superfine gravel, and since the completion of the work, the aerodrome has not been used. It is my experience, that when one of the Services goes to considerable expense to improve barracks, cantonments, or training grounds, this is usually the fore-runner of evacuation.

\* \* \*

THE removal of the gravel from the wide runway is, I imagine, a task which will be left until more labour and transport are available, unless the gravel, which is, or was, of excellent quality, can be used for the building of houses. When the runways are taken up it might be a sound idea to leave a 15-ft. track in the middle to serve as cart and tractor roads on the new lay-out of the farm, provided, of course, that drivers of heavily-laden wagons are not so inspired by the level surface that they imagine that they are pilots of Spitfires. The varying degrees of fertility on the re-claimed area when the first crops are sown should provide an interesting demonstration of the results of leaving land fallow for five years, and also of bringing the sub-soil to the surface. On the Ibsley aerodrome, I imagine, little harm has been done to the land, as it was practically dead flat before the construction took place in 1940, and it was only in a few isolated spots

that the top layer of cultivated soil was removed. I expect that, when the first green shoots appear after sowing, there will be clearly marked streaks of lush growth along the lines of the old hedgerows and ditches, and it will be interesting to discover what the crop results will be on those spots where in other days stood small pheasant coverts of oak and ash.

\* \* \*

I OBTAINED a convincing demonstration of the folly of bringing the bottom spit of soil to the surface when, at the beginning of the war, I "dug for victory" on half an acre of an old grass field to increase my vegetable production. The soil was excellent, but there was much couch grass, sorrel and buttercup in the turf and, with the laudable idea of destroying these growths and showing how the spade would win the war in the long run, I dug two spits deep, putting the bottom spit on top. It was a most remarkable and thorough job of scientific work, carried out with almost mathematical precision, and I was very proud of it—until I tried to grow vegetables on it, for the plot proved to be as near complete sterility as anything I have seen in a life spent mostly in the waste places of the earth. Even the easily-pleased shallot failed to produce a bulb larger than that of a snowdrop, peas grew to a height of three inches, with one tiny pod, and the dwarf beans were much less than lilliputian. Then, when a hot dry spell followed a period of rain, the whole plot set in a solid block like superfine pre-war cement. I was told by an old Forester that my sub-soil would

have been most valuable in the far-off days of the cob cottage, as it was composed of what is known locally as "brick earth," which has the quality of setting into bricklike consistency, and being almost weather-proof; and so far as I could see he was telling the truth. I may say that five long, weary years spent in dumping rotted vegetation from the humus heaps on the plot, together with the constant application of poultry manure and wood ashes, have completely cured it of its sterility, and it now produces the finest vegetables in the garden; and certainly some of the most magnificent weeds.

\* \* \*

IN these days of cheap cement and its concomitant product, concrete, the binding and lasting qualities of certain soils and soil mixtures are not a matter to which much attention is paid at the present time, but when cob was used, not only for cottages, but also for eight-foot walls round farm-yards, it must have been a great convenience to have been able to construct the buildings from the earth of the actual site; and no doubt the selection of that site depended to some extent on the quality of the sub-soil. The weather-resisting properties of clays and other earths vary considerably, and in the days when I made light car tracks across sandy deserts it was found that some of the deposits met with a foot or so below the surface, such as disintegrated limestone, blue shale and certain grey clays, would set after rain, and the passage of rubber-wheeled traffic, into a concrete-like consistency, which was practically impervious to water and weather.

On the Kyle of Tongue, in Co. Sutherland, there stands a small castle, which is said to have been built by a Bishop of Caithness some 500 years or more ago. The castle is constructed of rough stones from the beach below the Kyle,

and the "mortar" used to bed in the stones and fill the joints is the salt mud and sand mixture, containing shells of limpets, cockles and crabs, dug from the estuary nearby. The little castle stands exposed to all the varied weathers of the north coast of Scotland—driving rain storms, salt-laden gales, snow, frost and sun—but the mortar to-day, set like a rock, is as sound as it was when the stones were first laid.

\* \* \*

**I**N *The Planter's Vision*, John Betjeman, who must be a prophet as well as a poet, wrote:—

*I have a Vision of the Future, chum,  
The workers' flats in fields of soya beans  
Tower up like silver pencils, score on score:  
And Surging Millions hear the Challenge come  
From microphones in communal canteens  
"No Right! No Wrong! All's perfect,  
evermore."*

I say a prophet because since his book, *New Bats in Old Belfries*, was published a horrific bat of the vampire variety has flown out from a Government belfry in the form of the appalling suggestion that lofty flats should be built throughout the land to accommodate the country worker. The scheme displays that woeful ignorance of the countryman and his mode of life which is so apparent in all Government circles to-day. If there is one thing the countryman desires, and means to have at all costs, it is his own little plot of land around his house—and not in an allotment half a mile away, if he can help it. Here he will raise all the vegetables and fruit required for his family, and run his pen of chickens, while in the front garden his wife will produce, so often, a far finer blaze of colour than others can achieve with a skilled gardener. One may tour the

countryside with a critical horticultural eye, and, for every neglected waste round a country cottage or bungalow, one will see at least a thousand where everything is as perfect as the hand of a man can contrive in this imperfect world. Another little point, of which our Masters appear to be in complete ignorance, is that the average country worker does not wish to live all his life in a house which he rents from the Government or the District Council. Way back in his mind (a long way back perhaps these days, but nevertheless very firmly fixed there all the same) is the reprehensible and altogether deplorable desire to be the owner of the cottage in which he lives, and of the plot of land in which he puts in so much of his spare time.

\* \* \*

**M**R. ANEURIN BEVAN may think that a plot in an allotment in the vicinity of the workers' flat can take the place of the garden round the cottage, but he will have to ask Mr. Chuter Ede to take the most effective steps to improve the nation's morals. In these days of the poultry raider and the fruit and vegetable sneak-thief, the countryman finds it difficult enough to protect his property when it is within sight and sound of his bedroom window, and he sleeps with his gun by his bedside. A pen of chickens in an allotment half a mile away would be hostages to fortune indeed any time after December 1—if they were lucky enough to survive so long! In England I have always looked forward for several reasons to the time when Christmas is behind one. The days are getting longer, the sun is rising higher, the income-tax inspector ceases to write his seasonable letters, and nowadays there is the added relief of knowing that the poultry bandit probably will not be quite so active after the feasting season when, this year—judging by the number of raids made in this

part of the world—some thirty per cent. of the population must have dined off stolen turkeys, geese and poultry.

\* \* \*

**T**HERE is no excuse for the way in which we, as members of a world-wide empire, deliberately mispronounce certain words which are of considerable significance to us. One of the worst cases of this is the name of that all-important mountain barrier in Northern India, which we were taught at school was called the Him-al-ay-as, and which we have persisted in calling the Him-al-ay-as ever since. Yet every Anglo-Indian knows that the correct pronunciation is Hām-āl-ēy-ās, speaks about them in India to his colleagues as such, and comes into line with the accepted British pronunciation in this country only for fear of being thought pedantic and peculiar. I do not know what the Indian Army or I.C.S. man suffers when he hears this dominant feature of Asia mispronounced on every occasion, but if it is anything like my reaction to that horrible abortion of a word "sheek" I can sympathise with him. For two decades I lived among Shaikhs, meeting them daily and calling them by their full names with the title always in front—Shaikh with an emphasis on the "a" sound in the middle, and full recognition of the "kh" at the end.

Another quite common Oriental word, which crops up in some form in the East whenever the female sex is mentioned, and with which we take gross liberties, is Harem, *anglice* "Hairem." The correct pronunciation of this is "Harr-eem" with a marked emphasis on the last syllable. I imagine that these mistakes occurred through the first travel writers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries being a trifle slipshod about the spelling of Eastern words, and because we, with marked preference for mispronunciation, flatly refuse to alter them.

## THE SOMERSET GIANTS

By HARWOOD STEELE

**I** HAVE recently examined from the air what I believe to be one of the most remarkable, and least known, discoveries of our time—the so-called Somerset Giants in what is known

as The Temple of the Stars. The Giants consist of the Signs of the Zodiac, in outline and partly in relief, laid out in a circle ten miles in diameter near Glastonbury, in the country associated

with King Arthur, the centre of the circle being at Butleigh. They somewhat resemble other ancient giants—Uffington's White Horse, Wisconsin's effigy mounds and Ohio's Great Serpent.

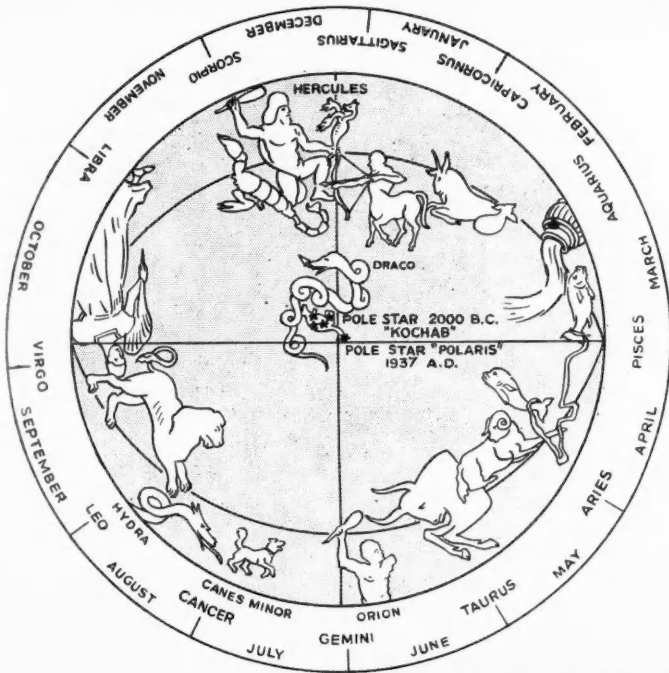
With minor variations, all the familiar Signs are accounted for, and ten are actually outlined in the familiar sequence. If a modern planisphere of the correct scale be placed back-to-back with a map of the Giants and the stars of the Signs be pricked through, these stars, in almost every instance, fall into the corresponding figures on the map. The exceptions fall in their vicinity. Also present are the Ship, Whale, Dove, Little Dog and other symbols. The Great Dog stands near by, but does not synchronise with the appropriate stars. The Giants are formed by natural and artificial waterways, ancient tracks and hills which, with occasional old earthworks, model some of the figures in partial relief.

It is not necessary to fly over the Giants to distinguish them. Mrs. K. E. Maltwood, F.R.S.A., an Englishwoman now living in Canada, discovered them before the war by studying Ordnance maps and observing from high points while trying to identify on the ground scenes and episodes of the Arthurian cycle. Laymen with the map alone can trace them too. At least, like children with a picture puzzle, they can revel in separating most of the figures from the maze of irrelevant roads, streams and other features wherein (presumably by the accident of haphazard construction by men not in the secret and the design of men who were) they lie coyly and charmingly concealed yet in plain view. Air observation and air photographs like those of the discoverer, some of which are reproduced here, amplify the map, revealing several Giants with such dramatic clarity that, when I showed them to aviators who knew the King Arthur country perfectly, they expressed the greatest surprise.

(Left) A MAP OF THE ZODIACAL GIANTS OF SOMERSET







A REPRODUCTION FROM AN OLD DRAWING OF THE TRADITIONAL ZODIAC FIGURES

The theory of the origin, age and significance of the Giants is this: the priests of ancient times were the custodians of scientific knowledge—including astronomy—shrouded in symbolism the meaning of which they revealed only to their initiates. The knowledge symbolised in the Zodiac was brought to Britain by Sumer-Chaldean priests who, to preserve it for ever in a manner readily visible to initiates but not to others, laid out the Zodiac as a great Nature Temple of the Stars. The Zodiacal myths are an allegory of the Sun's annual wanderings among the Signs. In these myths, the (Sun) God escapes death in a sacred ship. The ancient British priesthood, incorporating the Sumer-Chaldeans, called this ship—and, eventually, the associated Zodiac—the *Caer Sidi*. Still later, the whole cult, with the priesthood's confined circle of arts and sciences, became the Cup of Wisdom, the transposition from ship or vessel to cup being simple.

The central God subsequently became Arthur, perpetuating the real or imaginary chief who defended the Britons from the heathen and who, like the sun after his epic annual decline, would come again. When Joseph of Arimathea brought Christianity and the Holy Grail to Britain, the Grail inevitably absorbed the Cup of Wisdom—hence its association with Glastonbury. Similarly, the astronomical myths became the adventures of a great Christian King Arthur and his knights (the sun and constellations), the round Zodiac merged into the Round Table and the country of the Giants into the Kingdom of Logres, Arthur's Kingdom; while the Quest of the initiates for the Cup of Wisdom (*i.e.* knowledge) became the Quest of the Holy Grail.

Five thousand years, by the discoverer's estimate, have passed since the Giants were outlined. The component parts of the puzzle were preserved. Yet its existence was forgotten until Mrs. Maltwood realised that the Arthurian adventures could be connected with the ground of the Kingdom

and therefore that, being part of the transformed Zodiacal myths, they must connect with a Zodiac on that ground. Her discovery is supported, directly or indirectly, in many quarters.

Hogben, in his *Science for the Citizen* for example, sets out most clearly the association of ancient priesthoods with science wrapped in symbolism.

That the Sumer-Chaldeans made the Giants is indirectly supported by Dr. Waddell, whose *British Edda* proves their kinship with the original British, and by Lenormant, Jensen and Epping. The mysterious Biblical declaration: "There were giants in the earth in those days," and the belief that the Sumer-Chaldeans con-

structed giant effigies may also bear on the matter.

The Temple was probably laid out 5,000 years ago, because at that time the Sumer-Chaldeans were astronomically active, the sun at the Spring equinox stood in the Sign of the Bull—to the effigy of which the Archer (Sun God), here combined with Hercules, and other Somerset symbols point—and the stars of the Great Dog, when the planisphere is fitted to the Temple map, fall on the Somerset Griffin, here a substitute for one of the Twins but the Great Dog's substitute in the ancient Egyptian Zodiac.

Malory places the Kingdom of Logres in Somerset. Edward Davies established the links between the Zodiacal myths, the ancient British priesthood and the Arthurian cycle.

*Morte D'Arthur* states that "there was a day assigned betwixt King Arthur and Sir Mordred that they should meet upon a down beside Salisbury and not far from the seaside," where they fought "the last Great Battle of the West"—Arthur, wounded but escaping death, then retiring to near-by Avalon. The Persians called November Mordad, meaning the Angel of Death. The Scorpion marks November, when the approaching Winter solstice threatens the sun with extinction; Archer and Scorpion stand side-by-side in the heavens and the Somerset Giants representing them meet near Salisbury; while over the Somerset Archer flies the Dove, a reminder that, according to



(Right) TAURUS





are irregularly shaped and difficult to trace, the rest pure coincidence.

To these objections there are, I think, effective answers. Ancient indirect allusions to the Somerset Zodiac are many, as already shown, but are purposely allegorical. Owing to humanity's love for the easy, beaten track, many very ancient paths are now great, winding streets. Even if some of the place-names are new or corrupted, tenacious tradition makes many suggested associations probable. Here is an interesting Western Canadian parallel: the Plains Indian was originally a sun-worshipper. Near Macleod, my birthplace, lie the Bow, Elbow, Belly and Old Man's Rivers, suggesting a gigantic, recumbent Old Man (Sun God).

Time and Nature may have caused the irregularities in certain Somerset Giants, or they may be unfinished. The others, wonderfully clear and symmetrical, support the discoverer's case—notably the Twin, Bull, Ram, Fishes, Archer, Dove and Great Dog.

Coincidence? By the law of chance the twelve truly Zodiacal figures, outlining ten Signs, in the Somerset design could take their proper sequence in the circle by accident only through one chance in 479 million. The possibility that accident formed the figures seems, on similar grounds, remote.

Whatever its origin, age and significance, the preservation of this wonderful curiosity should no longer be left to chance. Now that the war is over the opportunity should be taken to submit Mrs. Maltwood's claims to expert examination. If they are substantiated, as I believe they would be, these links with the distant past should be safeguarded for all time.

All the illustrations with this article are reproduced from the Air View Supplement to A Guide to Glastonbury's Temple of the Stars, by K. E. Maltwood. The outlines of the figures have been strengthened to assist recognition.

(Left) GEMINI



Druidism, the Sun God's spirit escaped as a bird from his head, vanquishing death!

Wearyall Hill, forming one of the Fishes, is described locally as the burial-place of a gigantic salmon. Lions' claws have been unearthed from the ancient burial-ground in the Somerset Lion's tail. It is recorded that Saint Patrick visited, in an area suggesting Somerset, "an idol, covered with gold and silver, and twelve other idols about it . . ." which ". . . can be seen to this day half engulfed in the earth."

Even more remarkable are the place-names attached to the Giants: Collard Hill, on the Bull's collar; Chalice Blood Spring, in the beak of the Phoenix (here the Water-carrier); Waller's Bridge at the Whale's jaws; Catsham, on the Archer's cap (Catti being the title of ancient British kings and Ham meaning Sun); Ham Street, Lottisham and Tilham, all in the same Sun God effigy; Lug and Hu, other ancient names for the Sun God, preserved in Lugshorn and Huish, near that effigy; Earlake Moor and Head Drove by the Great Dog's head; and Wagg beneath his tail!

Sceptics may object that no ancient writings refer directly to a Somerset Zodiac; that 5,000-year-old tracks no longer exist; that the place-names quoted may be new or corrupted; that Britain's complicated landscapes readily suggest such outlines; that some of the Giants

(Right) THE QUESTING BEAST (THE DOG)



THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE VILLAGE OF OWLPEN, WHICH NAME IS UNCONNECTED WITH OWLS

## DECEPTIVE PLACE-NAMES

By EDWARD LEWIS

A REFERENCE in Parliament recently to Fighting Cocks, a place on the Durham border in the North Country, followed a day or two later by a letter to the Press which mentioned the name of another place in the same neighbourhood, Legs Across, sent me with a glow of returning enthusiasm to one of the dustier and more neglected corners of my bookshelves. E. V. Lucas said that one man's commonplace is another's phenomenon; and my phenomena are, or used to be, curious place-names and, if amusing also, so much the better.

Why, whence, and how did such places as Somerset's Cricket St. Thomas, Northamptonshire's Fineshade, Hard Knot in Cumberland, Landewednack in Cornwall or Quy, near Cambridge, get their names?

The newspaper correspondent said that Legs Across is so called because James of Scotland, on his way south to be crowned King of England, stopped to take a breather there by the roadside. Let us hope it was so; but I have my doubts. These charming and amusing place-names can rarely be taken at their face-value. If you come across such names as Eagle or Dogdyke in Lincolnshire, or a stream called Divelish in Dorset, you may be almost sure that neither an eagle, nor a dog, nor the devil, has anything whatever to do with them.

I once cycled through a place called Swine in the East-Riding and, when I learned its name, I chuckled to myself, "How amusing!" I could not help wondering why the Yorkshire folk had not tried to camouflage it a bit as, for example, the Dorset people did when they named Toller Porcorum, which sounds both aristocratic and monastic; or why they had not used a somewhat less smelly name, as the Kentish people did with Loose, which, though one would hardly suspect it, means a pig-sty. When I got home, however, I discovered that Swine has nothing to do with pigs; it means some kind of creek.

Chimney is in Oxfordshire; and when you think of inglenooks, andirons, blazing logs, and gentle pillars of smoke in the evening valley, what a pleasant name it is. But alas, the name has nothing to do with such homely delights; it means the island of somebody who rejoiced in the name of Ceomma.

I spent some years of my youth in Tideswell in Derbyshire. It was famous for a well which was locally reputed to rise and fall with the tides. I believe that the well is now in somebody's garden, but in those days it was in a meadow. Often I have watched the water

bubble up and overflow surprisingly—not, it is true, with the regularity of the tides. Yet there was, for youth, something mysterious and magical in the connection of our well with the sea. Disillusionment awaited me however. The name had nothing to do with tides, but with somebody yclept Tidi. Tidi's well.

### THE OLD WAY

WHEN the old church at Twyford was pulled down and rebuilt in the 1870s they had to dig down for 15 feet to find solid foundation for the tower, and there they came upon the sarsen stones; it is thought they were part of a prehistoric circle. Actually there had been a tradition to this effect, with nothing to account for it.

*HEDGED by ivy and spindle and thorn  
Up to the down winds an old green track,  
Winding by contours, firm to the foot,  
Trodden and ridden for centuries back.*

*Vicar says ancients came this way  
When tribesmen lived on the vallumed hill,  
(Twelve sarsen stones lie under the church)  
Sometimes a tractor uses it still.*

*Curving it goes, the eye cannot see  
Where the magpie dips a few yards ahead,  
Till there comes a space where the hedge is gone—  
Beneath a wide sky are fields outspread,*

*Changing their colour from week to week,  
Rich earth, green blade, brown-ripening corn,  
Pale stubble, thatched stacks,—new, yet so old  
Since oxen pulled ploughshares long outworn.*

*When north, south, east, west, from farm land  
or down,*

*Man turning homeward perceives in the trees  
Rosy church tower and cloud-pointing spire,  
Who knows what other heart-pictures he sees?*

KATHARINE M. R. KENYON.

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These old local chieftains, squires, lords of the manor, or whatever they were, have much to answer for. Not far from us in Tideswell was a place called Bugsworth. The name amused me. Yet it has nothing to do with the family of the hemiptera but with a certain Buduc.

You pass through Ebony in Kent. You think of dark woods that once grew there; or of dark-tusked mammoths who roamed the place. But no. It was just the place of Ebba; or it may have been Ybba.

Owlpen in Gloucestershire, that county of glorious names, appeals to me much less now I am obliged to connect it with Olla than it did when, in happy ignorance, I connected it with owls. Digswell, in Hertfordshire, sounds as if it were a name which had been specially created for such a time as this; a name which almost every village and hamlet in England during the past six years might have been entitled proudly to bear. I would find it hard if I were compelled to connect it with some Digga, or Dicca.

Happily there are exceptions. You need go no further than nettles to account for Nettlebed in Oxfordshire; no further than marigolds to account for Goldhanger of Essex. Buckinghamshire's Slough means what it says. Styrrup, in Nottinghamshire, means the ridge that is shaped like a stirrup.

Sometimes there are pleasant surprises, for, though Dogdyke has nothing to do with dogs, it does mean the ditch where water-lilies grow. It is therefore possible, after all, that Legs Across may not connect with some outlandish Legga, or Lugga, or Ligi, but may really mean the place where King James, tired of his horse, sat down on a bank, crossed his legs, and nodded off.

One of the names which I find most amusing is Philleigh in Cornwall. I guessed that it probably had something to do with Cornish spelling, and that they meant it for filly; perhaps the meadow where the fillies played. That was a near miss. The gender was wrong. It is the Cornish way of spelling the Latin *Filius*, to whom the old church there is dedicated.

Cloffocks, in Cumberland, is amusing. Facit in Lancashire is curious. Fardle (a fourth-part) in Devon is charming. Trunch in Norfolk, apart from potable reasons is attractive. Then Worcestershire has a White Ladies Aston, Nottinghamshire a Bunny. Hampshire a Nursling. Dorset a Plush, and Huntingdon a Warboys. When cream and strawberries are lavishly available, Devon's Welcombe will be especially appropriate.

What I do not quite understand is why Dorset folk should invent a jaw-breaker like Piddletrenthide when their neighbours in Hampshire express much the same puddly and marshy meaning with a name like Quob!



# CORACLES SURVIVE FROM ROMAN DAYS

Written and Illustrated by M. WIGHT

UPON a few Welsh and West of England rivers the basket-work boats which were common in Britain when the Romans landed—and long before—are still in use. Coracles still survive on the Towy and the Teifi in South Wales, and also on some parts of the Severn and the Dee. Within living memory they could be seen upon the Wye and the Monnow also, but not now. The only known example of a Wye coracle, found after long searching for the Hereford Museum, was built at least 40 years ago.

At Worcester is shown a Severn coracle that was found a few years back in the attic of a house in the town: coracles have not been used in that district for a long time. At Ironbridge and Shrewsbury, however, they are still used for rod-fishing (and poaching). During a flood they are found useful for navigating the Shrewsbury streets, and coracle races figure in the local regatta.

The diminution in the number of coracles means the loss not only of a picturesque type of craft, but of a definite link with the prehistoric. The Welsh corwgl has probably come down from the neolithic folk of 3,000 years ago. The earliest historical record of these skin-covered boats in Britain is owed to Caesar, who seems to suggest that they were peculiar to these islands; though later classical authors describe similar craft on the Continent. Pliny's *Natural History*, dating from the first century A.D., refers to boats of wickerwork covered with hides as possessed by the Britons and used for coastal traffic and for the voyage to Ireland. (It is said that until recently an old man used to ferry himself from Pembrokeshire to Ireland in a coracle—perhaps it was one of the Irish currachs—and the tale is not impossible of belief.) Ancient Irish and Scottish legends are full of stories of the early saints travelling in this way, more or less miraculously.

The next historical allusion is from Froissart, who says that in 1360, when King Edward III invaded France, he took a number of small boats "made very artfully of boiled leather." Holinshed records the same of Henry V: he took to France "boates to pass over rivers covered with leather." Possibly they were manned by Welshmen, for this army contained many of them armed with the long bow of South Wales.

In Wales we owe the first description of coracles to that prolific historian, Giraldus Cambrensis, of the twelfth century. He describes them in detail, and explains how they were used for fishing and for crossing rivers, being carried on land on men's shoulders. The Welsh mediæval poems contain many allusions to them. All ancient and mediæval writers are agreed that the original covering for a coracle was hide, of horse or ox: sometimes still a



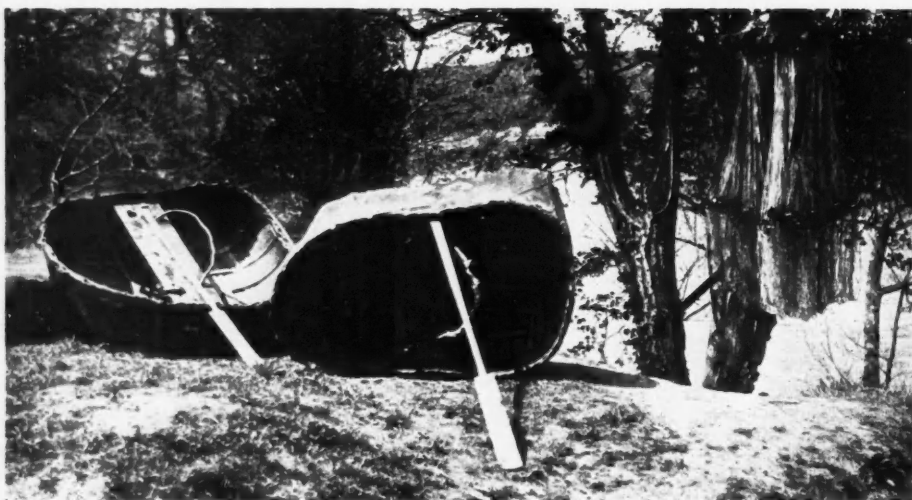
1.—A SEVERN CORACLE-BUILDER AT IRONBRIDGE

coracle-maker will speak of the covering, now usually canvas, as the hide. This was treated with tallow to waterproof it. The skin of a black bullock was considered a lucky thing to use in the Middle Ages, but the coverings are now black with the pitch used to make them waterproof.

At some time the use of hides gave place to that of coarse flannel, which was made in Wales in great quantities in the seventeenth

century: this continued in the south-west until the middle of the nineteenth century. To-day canvas or coarse calico is used. It can easily be believed that it was a messy job, as an old coracle-builder put it, soaking a large woollen blanket in hot tar and then stretching it to cover the wicker frame. The modern coracle must be lighter than those covered with hide, but with care they last for several seasons.

Every river has its distinctive pattern of



2 and 3.—CORACLES AND NETS BY THE TEIFI AT CENARTH. (Right) A CORACLE-BUILDER AT CENARTH





4.—ONE OF THE FEW SURVIVALS  
ON THE TAFF AT ST. CLEARS



5.—CARRYING A TOWY CORACLE  
AT CARMARTHEN



6.—A CORACLE MAN OF THE TEIFI  
WITH HIS GEAR

coracle, and even the wooden paddles are different too. This is partly due to the varying character of the streams, but also to tradition. Teifside coracle-builders insist that theirs is the oldest kind; nothing but woven wickerwork is used. They consider those on the Towy to be very sophisticated since nails are used in the construction, and they have a leather carrying-strap. Teifi coracles are short and blunt (Fig. 2); those on the tidal Towy at Carmarthen are long and nearly oval (Fig. 5). On the Dee they are a good deal larger and able to carry two people if necessary, and they are nearly square: on the Severn they are almost circular (Fig. 1).

Everywhere they are built chiefly for salmon and sewin netting; though when the weekly close time arrives for the nets, the Teifside fisherman brings out his home-made rod and line. Coracles float in a few inches of water, and in skilled hands they are very quick movers: with a stranger it is a very different story.

As with most other ancient industries, the building is confined to a few families with whom it has been a tradition perhaps for centuries: these men build for the other fishermen as well as for their own use. At Cenarth on the Teifi a few years ago there were three coracle-builders; one was also the local blacksmith; another had been a maker of coracles for 50 years. The Teifi craft is simply a flat basket (Fig. 3), woven of willow and hazel; the wood is prepared by soaking it in hot water to make it pliable. On the Dee and the Severn sawn laths have replaced the natural withies; recently at Llangollen a final touch of modernity was reached when a local sportsman built himself a coracle framed of aluminium, and riveted, but otherwise of the old Dee pattern.

Across the middle of the coracle a wooden plank forms a seat, and through it is threaded a twist of hazel by which it may be carried. The frame when finished and dried is given a coating of preservative and has the canvas cover fixed and finally tarred. The average weight of a Teifi coracle is about 25 lb.

The paddle is usually of ash wood, with a turned-over tip to the handle by which to engage the carrying strap when the coracle is carried on the back: the end is also gripped when paddling in certain positions. The nets are also made at home of primitive materials; they are slung out by ropes of horse-hair with rings of horn. In the Teifi coracle there is nothing used that could not have been found for the purpose 1,000 years ago.

In 1935 there were 33 pairs of coracles licensed for net-fishing: as no new licences are to be issued, the number will steadily decrease. The fishermen work the nets in pairs (Fig. 8), holding one end of the rope in one hand and steering with the paddle with the other. They



7.—THE CNOCHER CARRIED ON AN  
OLD CLEDDAU CORACLE WITH  
WHICH TO DISPATCH THE FISH

float down-stream only, and on coming to the end of their beat, pull to land, pick up the gear and walk back to the starting point. In the distance a procession of coracles looks rather like a march of huge black beetles.

At Carmarthen some dozen pairs are licensed, and it is a fine sight to see the entire fleet put out on the tidal stream at carefully regulated distances apart. When a fish is caught, the net is drawn in and the fish despatched as quickly as possible, for it can be imagined that a large salmon might easily upset a coracle.

A few years ago, on one of the first Spring days' fishing on the little Taff river at St. Clears,

where are a few pairs of coracles of yet another shape (Fig. 4), two men had an exciting experience. They netted a very big fish and through their efforts to get hold of it one coracle was upset, and the occupant's partner had to abandon net and fish to save him from the flooded river.

On most coracles is carried a cnocher (knocker) or short club with which to despatch the fish: on the Towy and Cleddau these clubs are carried in a loop of leather upon the seat (Fig. 7).

An amusing story is told of a fisherman who borrowed a Wye coracle for a day's fishing. All went well until he hooked an eel, which he promptly beheaded with a slash of his knife. Unfortunately the knife went through the bottom of the coracle, so that it quickly sank and the fisherman had to walk with it to the bank.

Laugharne, near the mouth of the Taff, also has coracle races at its regatta. Here there is a legendary ghost to be seen, called Admiral Laugharne, perhaps an 18th-century worthy. He appears naked and ferrying himself across the estuary in a leaky coracle, baling furiously the while with his cocked hat.

No doubt for rod-fishing the coracle has its uses: it is easily manœuvred and can be worked into places no larger boat could reach. In this way these interesting survivals may be kept in use after the traditional native methods have been allowed—or forced—to die out.



8.—TEIFI FISHERMEN USING THEIR NET WHILE FLOATING  
DOWN-STREAM



1.—BY DINHAM BRIDGE. THE WESTERN RAMPARTS OF LUDLOW CASTLE CROWNING THEIR TREE-CLAD SCARP

## LUDLOW CASTLE — I

*Building begun c. 1085, and was carried on by successive de Lacys, a colourful Norman race who helped conquer Ireland and one of whom became a Knight Templar, founding in his castle a round Templar Chapel.*



2.—GATE TO THE OUTER BAILEY FROM THE TOWN. Showing, beside the Norman Great Tower, Sir Henry Sidney's Jacobean buildings

IN the 13th-century *Romance of the FitzWarines* which describes life in and around Ludlow Castle in Stephen's and Henry II's reigns, Joce de Dinan early one Summer morning saw from the top of a tower the ridge of Whitcliff beyond the river alive with knights and soldiers in full equipment under the banner of de Lacy, his enemy. Sending out a patrol of knights to cover Dinham bridge, Joce mobilised a force of five hundred from the garrison and town burgesses and hastened in support, while the ladies of the castle watched the swaying fortunes of their lord from the ramparts. Stung by their shrill reproaches the boy Fulke FitzWarine, Joce's ward, finds a rusty helmet, an old axe, and a cart-horse, and dashes down the hill, over the river, and up the opposite slope just in time to rescue his guardian from imminent death.

That is only the beginning of the long, racy, and *picaresque* saga, which extends over several generations and is peculiar for the vividness of its local colour.\* Unfortunately modern scholarship discounts its veracity, but this opening passage paints just the foreground required for the picture at the head of this page — a landscape instinct with the colours and shapes of mediæval chivalry, the towers of the Castle-Palace gleaming silvery against a lowering sky.

In reality the earlier centuries of the Castle's history are overlaid with the annals of the Palace of the Princes of Wales, as which it continued in full occupation till the Civil War and was thereby preserved intact till the eighteenth century. But for negligence by the governments of the Georges, which allowed it to fall into complete ruin, Ludlow, incomparably the grandest of the Marches castles, might be a royal palace still, a smaller Windsor, a more historic Warwick. Not that contemporaries were entirely unappreciative; Defoe, about 1720, wrote of the Castle as "in the very Perfection of Decay":

All the fine Courts, the Royal Apartments, Halls, and Rooms of State, lie open, abandoned, so that Time, the great Devourer of the Works of Man, begins to eat into the very Stone Walls and to spread the Face of Royal Ruin upon the whole fabric.

The "Royal Ruin" has at least never been subjected to crude restoration, and, since its acquisition in 1811 by the Earl of Powis, has been admirably preserved as the great national monument that it is.

\* A prose version of the Anglo-Norman poem, dating from the early fourteenth century, is in the British Museum. MS. Reg. 12, C. XII.





3.—MOST MAGNIFICENT OF WELSH BORDER CASTLES, LUDLOW CASTLE FROM THE NORTH  
In the centre the *Garde-robe* Tower added in the fourteenth century

The Castle, occupying the N.W. corner of the plateau overlooking the River Teme on which the town has subsequently grown, covers nearly five acres. On north and west the walls rise from the almost precipitous scarps, planted by a Countess of Powis in 1775 with the trees, now full grown, that shade the public walks below the ramparts and form such a picturesque setting to them (Fig. 3). Entrance is from the High Street or Market by the remains of an Outer Gatehouse (Fig. 4) into the Outer Bailey that accounts for most of the area. Framed in the arch can be seen the Norman Great Tower, nucleus of the original castle, from the top of which was taken the view (Fig. 5) of the Inner Bailey, the area of the Norman castle. With the exception of the remarkable round chapel of St. Mary Magdalene (see also Figs. 8 and 9) the domestic buildings seen in this bird's-eye view, and forming the State Apartments, are all 14th-century or later additions within the ring of the Norman defences. The addition of the Outer Bailey took place in the twelfth century, covering several blocks of the town and perhaps in order to provide a large place of refuge for its inhabitants, since the town was not itself walled round till a century later. In after ages the Outer Bailey became the precincts of the Court of the Marches of Wales, the proceedings of which were held in a chapel, adapted for the purpose, against its southern curtain, next to which a prison was built for unsuccessful litigants. The four Justices of Wales were provided with official lodgings built about 1600 against the Norman keep and over the entry to the Inner Bailey (Fig. 7).

Thus the Castle's development was continuous to within relatively modern times, not, as is the case with the majority, cut short at some remote date, and consequently, though only a shell, has much of the vitality of a complex inhabited building. Its history falls into three well-marked phases: the baronial seat of the Norman de Lacys, 1085-c. 1300; a chief stronghold of the Earls of March, c. 1300-1460; and the administrative headquarters of the Council of the Marches, 1472-1689.

Sufficient remains of the de Lacy castle to show that it differed considerably from the usual type. Being a rock-castle, there was never an earthen motte surmounted by a round shell-keep. Instead, the whole corner of the plateau was cut off, scarp to scarp, with a deep ditch to form a lemon-shaped fortified enclosure entered near its southern tip through a



4.—MORTIMER'S TOWER (THIRTEENTH CENTURY), AND WEST CURTAIN WALL OF THE OUTER BAILEY. With towers of the Norman Castle beyond



rectangular gateway-keep, which was also the lord's residence. This was the Great Tower (Fig. 2), on which the main street of the town was aligned, although diagonally, on the axis preserved by the subsequent Outer Gate. Four towers supported the outward face, one at each end. Within, some timber domestic buildings no doubt abutted against the curtain wall.

The de Lacys, taking their name from Lassy, near Vire, were among the most active of the Conqueror's followers both as soldiers and builders. Walter, first Baron, who established a large holding on the Welsh Marches, was killed in 1085 by falling from a ladder when he was inspecting the progress of St. Peter's Church, Hereford, which he had founded. Roger, his eldest son, seems to have inherited this interest in architecture, for he is regarded as the founder not only of Ludlow Castle on his manor of Stanton Lacy but of the town, too, which was laid out on spacious rectangular lines. Unfortunately, he did not get on well with King Rufus and, on the failure of his second rebellion in 1095, had to fly the country, when his brother

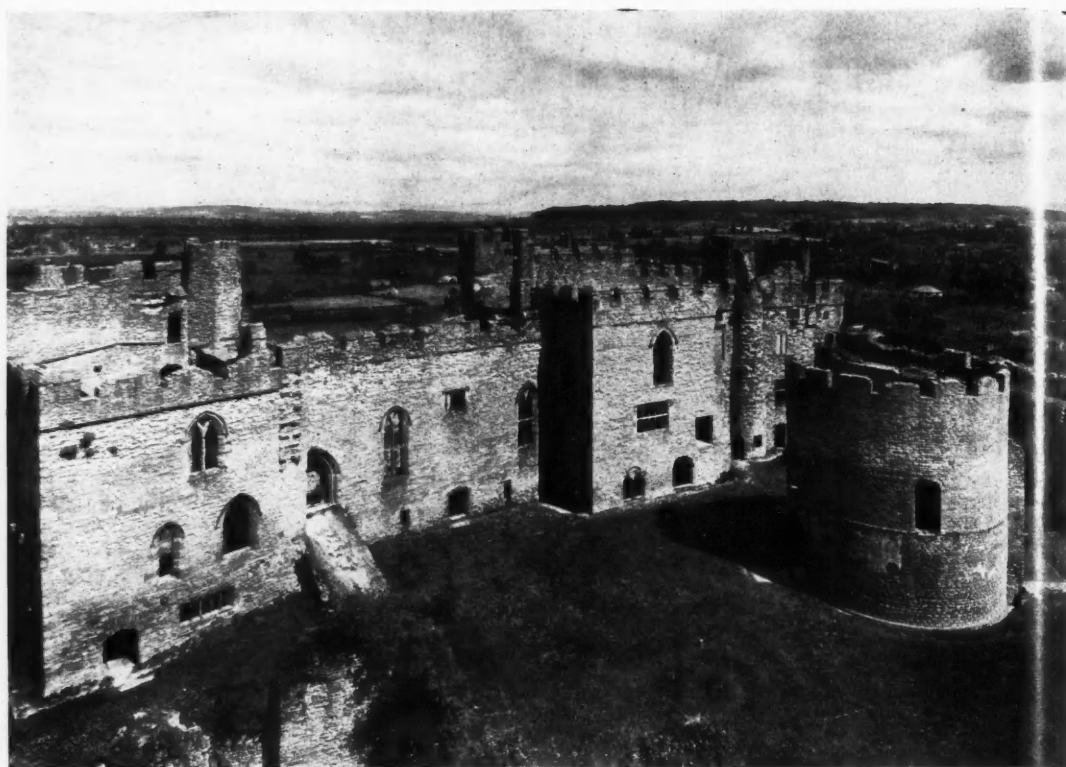
Hugh took over his estates. The latter founded Lanthorn Abbey in the Black Mountain, and was buried at Weobley. He was succeeded by a sister's son, Gilbert, who took the name of de Lacy, and was at first a supporter of the Empress Matilda against Stephen. She, however, installed Joce de Dinan in Ludlow, whereupon Gilbert transferred his allegiance to Stephen who confirmed his right to Ludlow. It is clearly to this Gilbert that the *Romance of Fulke FitzWarine* refers as Joce's mortal enemy, although he is called Walter in confusion with his more celebrated grandson. Gilbert did succeed in ejecting Joce, with the support of Henry II, but soon afterwards joined the Knights Templars, seeing much service in Palestine, where he became Preceptor of the County of Tripoli.

Gilbert's connection with the Templars must be the clue to the building of the round chapel. Hope (*Archæologia* LXI), having apparently failed to relate buildings and

biography in this case, ignored the clue and dated the chapel on internal evidence to 1085, though he detected signs of a pause in building, after which it was continued with greater elaboration, including the addition of the ornamented member of the western arch (Fig. 9). This pause and alteration fits in with the inference that Gilbert ordered the building—the earliest of the five circular churches in England—but that it was far from completed at his death about 1160 and was finished by his son Hugh, first Lord Meath. It consisted in a round nave of 28 ft. internal diameter with seven arcaded wall-seats on each side. At the west it was entered by a grandly enriched archway, and eastward had a loftier, but simpler, arch to a chancel, giving, by another arch, into a semi-octagonal apse, of which only the foundations remain. In Elizabethan times a timber-framed chancel was substituted and the round nave divided by a floor to form the President's pew, to which a raised gallery gave access from the State Apartments.

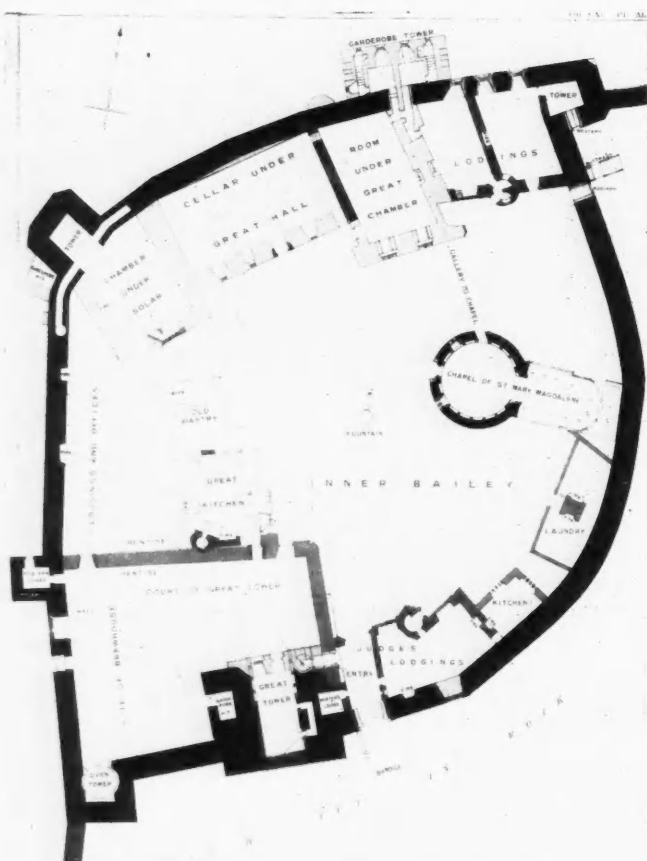
Hugh de Lacy, the Templar's son, was one of the conquerors of Ireland, crossing thither with Henry II in 1171. Giraldus describes him as a short, thickset, swarthy man with an ugly scar, but as Governor of Ireland he was a fine administrator, making it his first care to preserve the native Irish in the possession of their lands, by which he earned their friendly co-operation. He was also, a great builder, founding Trim and many other castles, and it was when inspecting progress on one of these that he was assassinated by an Irish youth in 1186.

Although the later Lacys were preoccupied with their estates and affairs in Ireland, Hugh was probably responsible for the formation of the Outer Bailey at Ludlow assigned by Hope to the late twelfth century. It more than quadrupled the fortified area, the walls following the north and west scarps then turning to form an approximate rectangle 435 ft. east to west and 500 ft. north to



5—INNER BAILEY, LOOKING NORTH FROM TOP OF GREAT TOWER

It is the court of the Norman castle, of which date the round chapel alone survives, the Hall and State Apartments having been erected in the fourteenth century



6.—GROUND PLAN OF INNER BAILEY

Norman portions shown dark. (From *Archæologia*, Vol. LXI.)

south. The landward walls were reinforced, as had been those of the Norman fort, by a ditch, now filled in, but was not defended by towers, even the gatehouse. That known as Mortimer's Tower, a prominent feature of the west side (Fig. 4) is regarded as a 13th-century addition, probably to command the scarp which is less steep and lofty at this point. It may thus be due to Walter, son of Hugh de Lacy.

Ludlow had, meanwhile, been taken over by Henry II, since Hugh had incurred the suspicion of making himself master of Ireland, but was restored to his son Walter by King John in 1214 together with the family's great Irish properties. Walter was a warm supporter of John and subsequently of Henry III; an Irish chronicler described him as "the bountifulest foreigner in steeds, attire, and gold that ever came to Eire" and Matthew Paris as "the most eminent of all the lords in Ireland"—to which is no doubt due his appearance in the *Romance* as the antagonist of

Joce de Dinan a century earlier. Walter died in 1271, leaving two grand-daughters as co-heirs, Ludlow ultimately coming to the younger, Matilda. She married Geoffrey de Genville, or Joinville, brother of the

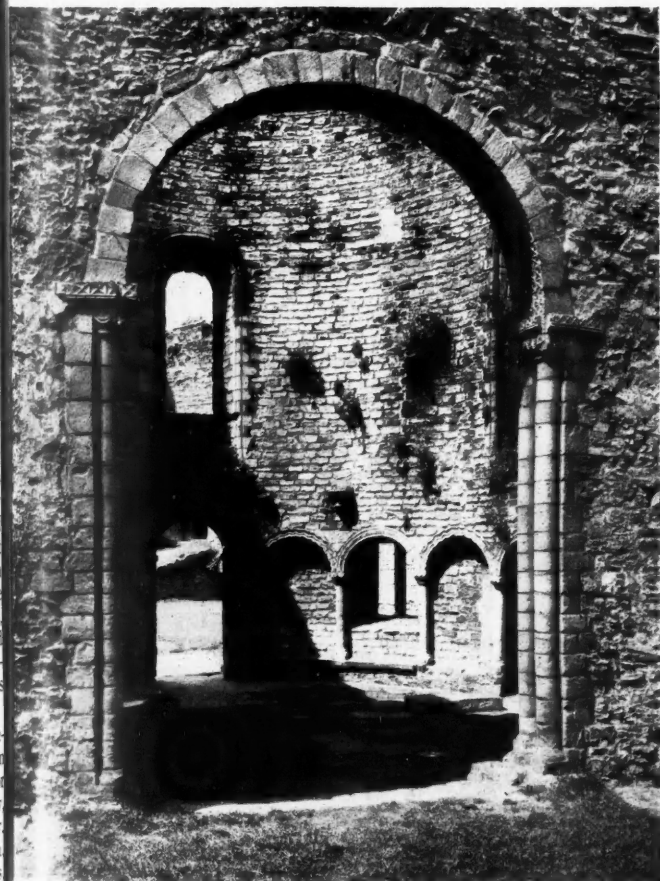
Sieur de Joinville (1227-1319), the friend and historian of St. Louis. Geoffrey de Genville (d. 1317), Justiciar of Ireland under Edward I, began the remodelling of the Norman castle. At the same time the outer walls and towers were raised to their present

height (Fig. 3), and against the north side, as part of the improved amenities, a tower was added to contain a battery of *garde-robes*, the outlet flues of which are seen above the naked rock at its base.

(To be concluded)



7.—INNER BAILEY, LOOKING SOUTH, SHOWING THE NORMAN GREAT TOWER  
And the Judges' Lodgings (c. 1600) over the gate from Outer Bailey



8.—THE ROUND CHAPEL. LOOKING INTO THE CIRCULAR NAVE THROUGH THE CHANCEL ARCH



9.—WEST DOORWAY OF ROUND CHAPEL, BEGUN BY THE  
TEMPLAR GILBERT DE LACY c. 1160



# HOW TO CATCH THE SILVER EEL

By ROY BEDDINGTON

**T**HIS country imported very large quantities of eels from Holland and Denmark until shipments ceased at the beginning of the war. Billingsgate, Manchester, Birmingham and other markets have had, therefore, to rely on the catches of British and Irish eel-trappers and fishermen.

The migrating or silver eels, which can be caught in greater numbers and more simply than the yellow or feeding eels, should provide the bulk which reach the markets. Their food value is greater than that of the yellow eel, though recently a high price has been obtained by both. It is important to know something of the life history of the eel, so that there should be no difficulty in differentiating between the various stages during its presence in our waters.

Eels, hatched out from spawn deposited at a thousand fathoms in the neighbourhood of the Sargasso Sea, are three years old when, following the course of the Gulf Stream, they reach these islands. They are known as glass eels or elvers. They spend not less than eight years in fresh water, during which period they feed voraciously and are ugly in appearance. They are often called yellow bellies or brown eels, because in colour they are brownish above and yellow below the lateral line. The females grow larger than the males, which seldom attain a weight of more than a pound or so. The females spend a correspondingly greater period in fresh water.

Both sexes undergo a change in appearance when the urge comes to return to the spawning grounds. The head contracts; the eyes grow large; the colour above the lateral line turns black-green and, below it, a silvery white. The eel ceases to feed as before and, waiting for a dark, stormy night or flood, prepares itself for the hazardous journey seaward and across the Atlantic. Eels do not return from the Sargasso Sea and presumably die as soon as they have spawned.

There is no doubt that a few eels pass downstream nightly during the migratory period—which varies from river to river but is some time between the end of June and the end of December. It can, however, be said that no eels travel when there is a moon. Mass migration occurs after heavy rain and subsequent flood. If there has been abnormally low water or a succession of frosts, the eels may delay their departure until conditions are suitable in the following year. They like neither light nor cold. In cold weather they bury themselves in the mud.

It is important to remember that they are attracted to the direction of the strongest draw of the current and prefer to swim close to the bottom. These two facts have greatly helped man in his endeavours to intercept them on their way to the sea. He tries, therefore, to divert them, by means of an obstacle across the whole river, such as a weir, from the main stream into a channel, such as the mill leat, which he can control by means of sluices.

The upstream face, or sill, of the weir should be as steep as possible so that the eels, though swimming along the bottom, are prevented from being carried over the sill by the force of water. A trap is sited at a sluice, usually the overflow sluice of a mill, which is chosen to be the only exit for the eels. All other sluices are closed. The selected site may be either somewhere along the leat or at a sluice or sluices set in the face of the weir.

Sometimes, because of the great volume of water, it is not possible to close all sluices other than that at which the trap is sited. It has been found, however, where there are sluices, made in halves, and when either both parts or the upper part alone can be raised, leaving the lower still in place, that it will suffice as a deterrent to raise only the top half. The surplus water can pass over the board, which is still in place, while the eels will choose the eel trap

sluice which has been opened from the bottom.

There are about fifteen variations of the most usual fixed engine used for the capture of silver eels. The principle is the same for all. These traps are called eel stages, gratings, raves or grates, according to local terminology. The type which I propose to describe is the most serviceable. The others are like it in some respect, but less complete and less effective.

Below a sluice, where there should be an appreciable fall, a sloping grating about four or five feet long is set at an angle of 35 to 45 degrees (which is the maximum) to the bed of the stream. This grating, up which it is intended that the eels shall be washed, is hinged with a two- or three-inch overlap on to a horizontal grating, which should be four feet or more in length. The longer it is, the more water can be passed through the sluice, without endangering the efficient working of the trap while its main purpose is to act as a brake to the eels.

At the downstream end of this grating is a gutter eight to ten inches wide and four inches deep. A vertical grating of a height sufficient to prevent the eels from being washed over it is set immediately in front of the gutter so that the eels have no alternative but to follow the gutter and to pass into a six-inch pipe or wooden passageway. The pipe will provide a chute into a brick or concrete well dug in the ground, while the wooden passageway would be used if a keep box or barrel is moored below the trap in place of the well. (For the general lay-out see the figures in plan and section.)

It is important to have as much water as possible passing over the trap so that the draw at the weir may be strong along the chosen route, but the volume entering the trap sluice must not be so great as to flood the trap. The gratings, together with the fall under the trap, enable the water to get away. If there is no fall, the trap ceases to be controllable since the water will back up. These facts must be taken into consideration when the slope and length of the first grating and the length of the second are determined.

The retaining walls of the trap can be of concrete, brick or wood (which is less satisfactory) or vertical gratings. At some sites,

where very heavy water is encountered, the horizontal grating can be made to slope slightly up towards the gutter, which will help to prevent injury to the eels from too great an impact against the vertical grating.

The sloping grating can be made by a blacksmith. The bars should be flat and not more than five-eighths of an inch apart. It should be capable of being lifted and tied to a horizontal bar, when the trap is not working, so that debris can pass under the horizontal grating. The owner will then be able the more easily to comply with the provisions of Section 36 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act which makes it illegal, in rivers frequented by salmon and migratory trout, to operate devices for the catching of eels between December 31 and June 25.

If one grating is too heavy to lift it can be made in two or more sections. Sectional gratings cast of iron are the best for the horizontal grating. The spacing of the bars should be the same as for the sloping grating. The sections, usually 2 ft. by 1 ft., rest upon cross-bearers. If the retaining walls are solid, small girders or old tram lines can be used. If wood is substituted either for the gratings (this is never so lasting or satisfactory) or the cross-bearers, oak or larch, if obtainable, should be chosen.

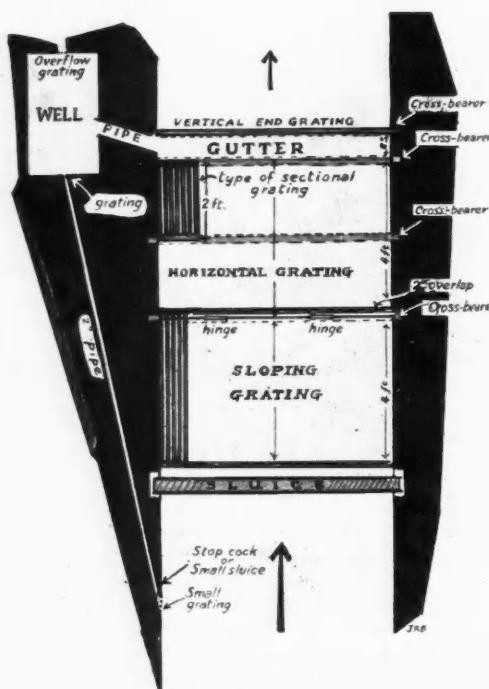
The operator of the trap should always be able to control the volume of water by the manipulation of the sluice, but he is often unable to deal with weeds, leaves and other debris unless he has a good weed rack above the trap sluice. He can, however, strain a stout wire across the channel above the sluice, to hold up logs or other snags which a flood soon brings in its wake. He will be much helped if he has a rake, the teeth of which exactly fit the spaces between the grating bars. The small sections of the horizontal grating are easy to clean and can easily be stored when not in use.

If a well has been dug it is important that there should always be a constant flow of fresh water passing through it when the trap is not operating. This can be done by putting in a two-inch pipe, which takes in water above the sluice and takes it through a small grating into the well. There should also be a small grating at the outflow, which should be so placed that the well can be cleaned out from time to time. The eels will be removed very easily from the well if it has a false bottom of wood, which can be pulled up by a pulley. This will greatly facilitate the packing of eels for market. The well should have a lid and a padlock.

I have seen the sloping gratings of a trap put in with the bars set in their frames horizontally. The bars of both gratings must follow the direction of the flow of the water.

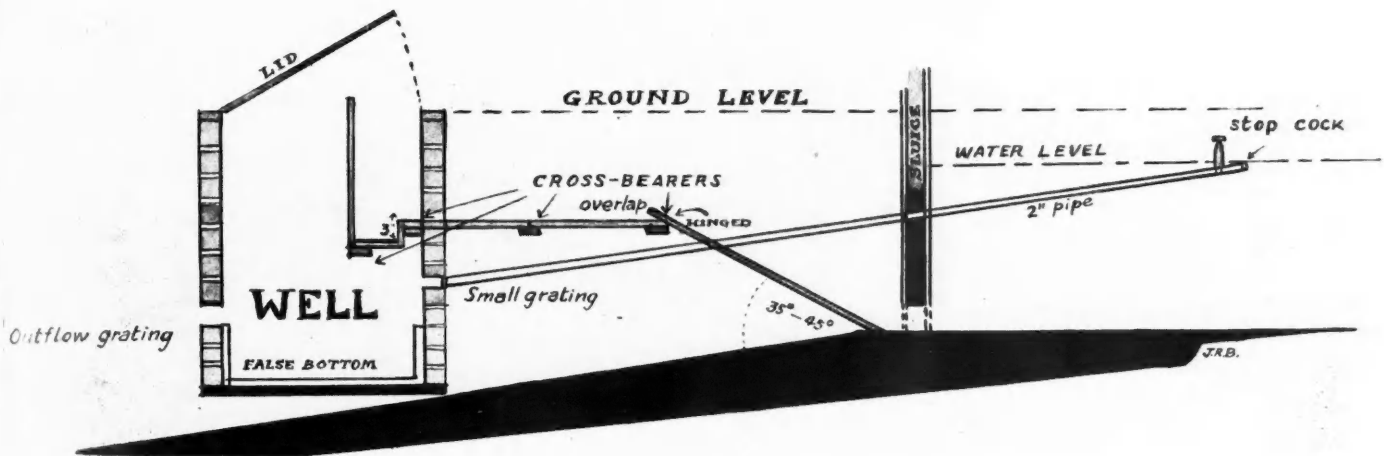
The bed of the channel below the sluice where the frame of the sloping grating rests on the bottom should be levelled with concrete, while any escape holes in the retaining walls, if solid, should be sealed off with the same material, though if existing walls are not parallel to each other it may be necessary to shape the gratings so that they exactly fit the available space.

The best existing type of grating trap can be adjusted to suit any height of water. Sloping, horizontal and vertical gratings together with the gutter can all be raised or lowered by a system of pulleys. There are other traps, such as the downward sloping grating, which acts as a chute for the eels. This trap is not to be recommended because of probable injury to the catch. There are, too, what are known as eel filters. These consist of a sluice at the upstream end and a vertical grating extending to the bed of the river. This grating is sited some yards below, so that when the sluice is opened the eels enter the intervening space, and when it is closed they are trapped in the same area. I have seen this contraption effective in the overflow channel, but it is



A SERVICEABLE TYPE OF TRAP FOR SILVER EELS, SHOWN IN PLAN





THE TRAP SHOWN IN SECTION

difficult to extract the eels with only a large landing net as weapon.

There are also eel pots, which are still used in the River Test. They are rather similar to the eel bucks once used in the Thames, but are made of wire. No sluice is required, nor is a fall necessary. The pots, the number of which covers the width of the river, are lowered to the bottom down a wooden grooves and, when they are pulled up, the wad of rushes which serves as a stopper is removed and the eels are emptied into a keep box.

Sluice-nets, which work on the same principle, are to be found in use in some rivers. A net, the mouth of which is bound upon a rectangular frame, fitting exactly into the grooves of a sluice, takes the place of the wire pot. Each net is about ten feet in length and tapered towards the cod-end. The meshes vary in size from two inches at the frame to half an inch at the cod-end. This is to allow the water to escape through the large meshes and to retain

the eels in the smaller meshed bag. Fixed nets are still fished in some waters, either across a river or in the tail race of a mill. Nets, however, are fragile. They need constant attention whereas the type of trap which I have described at length can be fished with the minimum attention. It is necessary for the operator to visit it only periodically and to rake the debris from the gratings.

Remember, however, that it is the eel-trapper who is present constantly when conditions are suitable who catches the most eels. There are still some owners of traps who fish them only when they think that the weather is ideal for a large catch. It is the man who fishes his trap nightly during the season who has the biggest total; for, if only six or seven eels are found in the morning, over a period it does not take very long to secure a draft, which is twenty-one pounds and the measure for eels.

When silver eels have been caught it is

most important that the boxes in which they are packed for rail transit should be well soaked for at least twenty-four hours or, if the box is new, two or three days and nights, otherwise it will dry out and act like blotting-paper upon the slime of the eels, which will soon die. Purchasers buy live eels; dead eels fetch a much lower price. It is also essential to have small holes or slits in the bottom of the box, which expedient enables an over-abundance of slime to escape. The eels will, however, keep for a month or more in a good well or keep box.

Many eel traps, derelict because the pre-war price did not make working them worthwhile, have, since the import of foreign eels ceased, been repaired with the helping hand of the Government. New traps have been installed. Let us hope that this home industry will continue to flourish and never again become almost obsolete. It seems that our eel-catchers should be entitled to some form of protection.

## A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

By EILUNED LEWIS

"STILL ending and beginning still." The symbol of eternity, the endless inter-lacing pattern of the Celtic cross, presents no difficulty to the true countryman, for no one knows better than he that in the natural world there is neither death nor stagnation.

The dead, the waste, the dangerous,  
And all to sweetness turns.

Early Winter, more than any other time, is the moment of preparation and planting. "The back end of the year," as country-people call it, is the season of hope and activity, the time for taking thought and making plans; while January, the poets' season of silence and "the secret ministry of frost" (but it is sadly evident that the poets are an impractical set) is the moment for mending and setting garden tools to rights.

January too is the moment for studying the seedsman's catalogue, which, along with beef tea and heartening cordials, should be reckoned as the most potent aid to convalescence after influenza. More particularly this year when it is permitted to the dutiful once more to let their fancy roam among the annuals, and as one enthusiastic seedsman puts it "restore to their gardens some of the floral beauty which has been so patriotically sacrificed during the war."

That means we can banish the borders of carrot and beetroot, which we tried to tell ourselves were so decorative, to their proper place, and—putting aside every thought of influenza and its aftermath—there is nothing pleasanter on a Winter day than to sit with feet on the fender contemplating those elysian plants which are for ever "free-flowering," "profuse-blooming" and always "ideal for bedding." Happy 1946 that brings us back the pretty things in unstinted array!

Careful study of a newly-arrived list has persuaded me that the sweet peas sound best, or at least have gone most surely to the seedsman's head. "A very refined combination of peach pink on a creamy ground" and "deep cream, softly and subtly suffused salmon-pink" are reminiscent of a pre-war meal, and perhaps as near to anything of the sort that we shall get in 1946.

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Does anyone now observe the Twelfth Night custom of choosing a King of the Bean? And what is its origin? The King, perhaps, has some connection with the Three Kings and the feast of Epiphany. Was the bean, baked inside a specially large cake, the sign of living hope lying buried in the wintry ground? Whoever among the company found the bean buried in his slice of cake was made master of the revels.

Nowadays it is likely that most housewives regard Twelfth Night not as an occasion for revelry but as a good moment for taking down the Christmas holly and tidying up the house, since our houses, even more than our tool-sheds, need setting in order at the entry of the New Year.

Rummage sales, those valuable yet repellent opportunities for getting rid of the past, grow yearly fainter in their appeal since all of us, golden lads and girls as well as chimney-sweepers, now wear our rummage, or what once went by that name.

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Yet it is astonishingly true that after six years of war we can still find in our houses an abundance of scraps which are of immense value to other people. We have just tried it in our village with startlingly large results. The emphasis was on scraps—and clean ones at that—not on clothes or money which have been asked for too often, and the destination of all

these odd pieces of material was Belsen hospital where the poor victims of the German concentration camp are slowly recovering their long-lost health.

Through the good offices of U.N.R.R.A. we were shown the Creative Work which they have already accomplished: toys made from the felt lining of German army boots; belts and bags fashioned from some small pieces of leather found in a cellar or the cellophane covering of a flying bomb; exquisitely fine knitting achieved by unravelling a German body belt and using bicycle spokes for needles.

"Bring anything you can spare" said the invitation to a charming country house, and added the magic words "Tea at 4 o'clock." At this hour then the fun began. *Experto crede*. Everyone, it appeared, could part with scraps of stuff varying from French brocade to black-out cloth; organisers of now defunct working parties thankfully brought their old stocks of wool—khaki, blue and grey—enough to stuff the seats for two Lord Chancellors. There were buttons galore, fit to make a coster-monger's holiday; and what nouns of assembly are worthy of the knitting needles, nails, balls of string and reels of cotton that followed each other in fine confusion? A *wisp* of string, perhaps, and a *gaggle* of nails? Certainly it was a *pride* of knitting needles, filling an entire linen-basket: hundreds of needles that had fought or danced their way through six years of socks and mufflers, helmets and those awful sea-boot stockings.

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It seemed that a great, almost audible sigh of relief was breathed that day, and if those who had later to fill and stitch up the fifteen sacks dispatched to U.N.R.R.A. headquarters sighed a little too, it was with the satisfactory knowledge that many less fortunate folk would benefit by our swept and empty cupboards.

# DUCK-SHOOT RED-LETTER DAY

By  
JOHN MacKENZIE

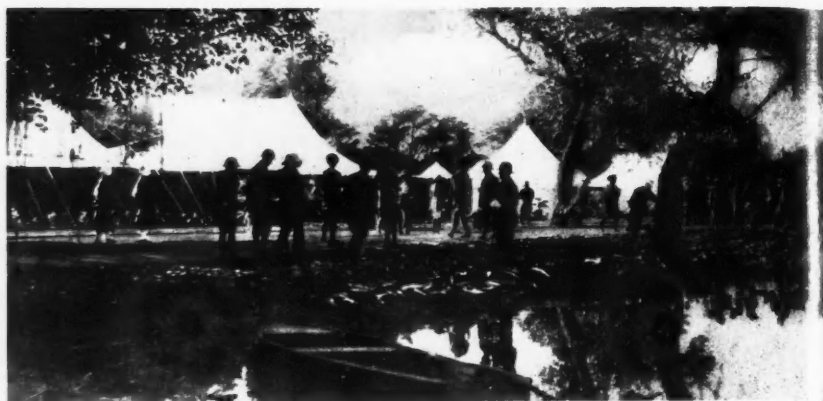
I HAVE no doubt that abler pens than mine have described the famous Bharatpur duck shoot, but the conditions under which I took part in this particular one being somewhat different, and the total bag a record, make me venture to tell the story in my own words.

Bharatpur State lies between the borders of the Delhi and United Provinces of India, and appears to be in the direct line taken by almost every variety of duck during their migratory flights at the beginning and end of the Indian cold weather, and the famous Bharatpur Jheel surrounded by trees and rushes, and covered with weed provides them with a wonderful haven of rest. The jheel is carefully preserved by the Maharajah, and is only shot over once or twice a year. The result is that at certain periods it is literally covered with thousands of duck and other waterfowl. Its size depends greatly on the monsoon rainfall. If the latter is heavy the jheel is often three miles long and varies from half a mile to a few hundred yards in width, and can take eighty to a hundred butts. After a drought it may not hold room for more than twenty guns. I believe that on such occasions the Maharajah keeps it from drying up entirely by turning water into it from irrigation canals, somewhat to the detriment of neighbouring crops, but ensuring that it is never forgotten and forsaken by the duck.

The butts are placed in what may roughly be described as two concentric ovals, the smaller and inner oval taking twenty to thirty butts which are occupied by distinguished guests or by those whose shooting abilities have proved them to be worthy of the honour. The outer ring butts vary in desirability. Some are very good, others are little more than stops. The butts are built on bunds which run round, and also intersect the jheel. A few are on small artificial islands, to which the guns are ferried on rough coracles.

Before going further with this tale and inviting possible criticism from those who have visited, or shot at Bharatpur at later periods, I should state that the above description of the jheel and its surroundings is taken almost verbatim from my game book, and is therefore written in the present tense. Things, both natural and artificial, have probably altered, and it is possible that, of recent years especially, "ducks" of a military species have frequented the jheel, polluting its waters and scaring every form of bird life from its precincts.

The particular shoot of which I write took place in the middle period of the first world war, when I was serving on the staff of the Viceroy, who, himself a keen and good shot, always looked on this visit to Bharatpur as a welcome relaxation from his arduous duties. Leaving Delhi after dinner in the luxurious Vice-regal train we arrived in the early hours of a chilly November morning. Stepping out on to the



COUNTING THE BAG BEFORE LUNCH

customary red carpet the Viceroy was greeted by the strains of a very brassy National Anthem and by the Maharajah and his suite. We were clothed in the particular form of shooting costume which we considered most suitable; our host and his following wore their State robes of gorgeously embroidered silk. The pearls round the young ruler's neck and the jewels in his turban were worth a king's ransom. After a few minutes of polite conversation the Maharajah asked the Viceroy to excuse him, and he and his staff retired into his private waiting-room from which, in an incredibly short time, they emerged clothed like ourselves for the chase.

Next we were each conducted by an official to one of a fleet of cars where we were given a blue print showing exactly the position of our butts and how to get to them. Led by the Viceroy and his host in a magnificent Rolls-Royce we drove to an assembly point marked by several large marquees, where we disembarked. Here we were asked how much ammunition we had brought and if the amount stated was not considered sufficient we were issued with more. Formerly this was in the nature of a gift, but as on previous occasions certain unscrupulous individuals had looked on it as a favourable opportunity to lay in a stock for the season, we were, to our relief, asked to sign for what we took and a bill was submitted later.

Near the marquees was a large stone pillar with two tablets let into the front and rear sides. On one of these was inscribed the number of birds killed at each shoot and on the other the name of the gun getting the largest bag, and the number of duck claimed by him.

Our instructions told us that everyone must be in his butt by 9.45 and so we proceeded to take up our positions. All the butts were built to the same pattern, a circular structure of brushwood and rushes, a little over breast high and provided with a wooden seat and a small table, on which was placed a box of 100 cigarettes, a bottle of whisky and some bottles of soda. Considering that we had been informed that shooting would stop at one o'clock for lunch, this seemed to be quite a liberal allowance. Present at the butt, also, were a gentle-

man in an ill-fitting green uniform who informed me that he was my loader, and three semi-nude and shivering coolies whose duty was to retrieve my birds. When shooting commenced and I discovered that my loader's favourite position for my second gun was pointed, at full cock, at the small of my back I relegated him to the position of joining the pickers up, to do which he took off his uniform and looked as cold and poorly clad as they, but he did not appear to bear me any ill-will.

On my first arrival in the butt the water was covered by a dense low-lying mist and it was difficult to see anything on the surface, but a constant conglomeration of duck sounds could be heard in all directions. Although one naturally tried to avoid talking or making unnecessary noise, the movement of so many people must have been noticed by the duck, but they appeared to pay little or no attention.

It was now almost zero hour—10 a.m.—and punctually at that time a bugle sounded a single note. This was the signal for the firing of the Vice-regal salute by the State battery of antiquated guns posted near the jheel. On the report of the first gun the duck rose in a cloud which literally darkened the sky. The noise of their wings was almost deafening, and the volume and rapidity of movement in all directions completely bewildering.

On this occasion one of the guns was the colonel of a regiment stationed in Agra, and he had brought, as a loader, one of his sergeants, who, in private life, had been head keeper to a well-known sporting English peer. When he had fired his first two barrels the colonel handed back the gun and held out his hand for his second gun. It remained empty, and looking round he found his loader gazing into the sky and invoking the Almighty to help him.

This was not my first visit to Bharatpur, and I had learnt from sad experience to resist an almost uncontrollable impulse to fire wildly into this mass of duck. To do so only meant wounded birds which got lost in the weeds. Once the initial rush was over it became possible to pick one's birds and, incidentally, save ammunition, which, on a day like this, was definitely worthy of consideration. But many of the guns had not learned this lesson. In a near-by butt were three subalterns belonging to the regiment commanded by the above-mentioned colonel. He had obtained permission for them to shoot on the condition that they occupied one butt. These three young gentlemen had armed themselves with Winchester repeating guns, and doubtless had arranged to shoot in turn. But the sight of these thousands of duck had proved too great a temptation and they started to fire simultaneously and continued to do so, pumping shot out of their sever-shooters and reloading as fast as possible. Not knowing the cause of this terrific fusillade I thought at first that a machine-gun had come into action. After a comparatively short time there came complete silence from the butt, owing to the fact that they had expended all their ammunition. As their butt was of the island variety, and they had no means of communication with the mainland they had to take the unenviable rôle of spectators until the Maharajah, hearing of their plight, sent some cartridges to them on an elephant. After that their shooting was much more restrained, and, doubtless, more effective.



ONE OF THE GUNS BEING FERRIED FROM AN ISLAND BUTT



At one o'clock the cease fire sounded and we collected and counted our bag, and proceeded to the luncheon tents. And here we return to comedy. I have, on one or two occasions been provided with lunches, on a Scottish moor, on what I considered a lordly scale, with tables, chairs, glass, china and silver, and a butler in attendance, but these rank as mere picnics in comparison with the Bharatpur shooting lunch. The arrangements had been entrusted to one of India's leading caterers, a man of large ideas which had apparently grown even larger since he had obtained a royal warrant in recognition of the fact that he had provided all the meals for King George V and Queen Mary and their suite on their journeys in India in the royal train. To uphold this statement I append, as a matter of interest, a copy of the menu and wine list as provided for us that day:—

Hors d'oeuvres variés  
Potage Crème d'asperges  
Mayonnaise de poisson Parisienne  
Côtelettes de mouton Reforme  
Pâté de volaille aux champignons  
Chicken curry  
Dinde rôtie et Jambon de York  
Selle de Pré Salé  
Salade de pommes  
Vacherin Neapolitain  
Crème aux Pêches  
Framboises et Crème  
Fromage  
Dessert  
Café  
Wines  
Old Brown Sherry  
Niersteiner  
Beaune, Pommard  
Château Mouton Rothschild  
Claret, Hock and Cider Cups  
Black and White and Dewar's White Label Whisky  
Wrexham Pilsener, Guinness's Stout  
Ramirez Old Tawny Port  
Justerini and Brooke's Old Brandy  
Benedictine, Curaçoa, Kummel  
Cherry Brandy, Green and Yellow Chartreuse

Is it to be wondered that some of the guns showed no great inclination to go out again after lunch, or that those who went did not, perhaps, shoot quite so accurately?

There was a slight delay before going in to lunch owing to the fact that one of the guests, a French official, had not returned from his butt. I had seen the gentleman on our arrival, clothed in spotless white drill, and on his head a tall white helmet. I imagined that he had donned this costume as a form of semi-official dress in which to meet the Viceroy. But apparently this was his own idea of correct sporting attire, as when he did appear in the luncheon tent he was still wearing it, but sadly soiled with mud and slime. In his hand he



THE BHARATPUR DUCK MEMORIAL

carried a very dishevelled cormorant, which was his sole contribution to the bag, and from which he refused to be separated, placing it under his chair at lunch. Another unusual interlude was the arrival in the tent of the Maharajah's tame lion, a three-quarter-grown cub, magnificent in appearance in front but suffering sadly from rickets as regards his hindquarters. This animal wandered aimlessly round the table, interfering somewhat with the service, as the imported waiters gave it a wide berth, and nosing round for any scraps which might be offered to it. I noticed, however, that it showed no interest in the cormorant.

At 2.15 we rose from the table with the exception of our French colleague, who appeared to be no more inclined to be parted from his glass of old brandy than he had been to entrust his cormorant to the care of anyone else. When we returned to the tent, after shooting had ended, he was still there with the cormorant, and a glass of brandy, presumably not the original one.

At 2.30 we returned to our butts. Our instructions were that shooting would continue until dusk, which, at that time of year, occurred about 4.30. But it was now a very different kind of shooting. The birds, with the exception of coots and cormorants, had left the jheel, and it was not until nearly four o'clock that they began to return in any numbers. Even then they approached with great caution, flying round

very high for some time before attempting to alight. And every shot sent them up into the blue again. So now it was a case of real marksmanship. My shooting ended at 3.30, as I had expended all my ammunition. I had beaten my previous best bag, and I was content. Moreover, I had a distinctly tender shoulder.

Although I did not shoot any more myself I had the pleasure of watching a most interesting duel between the occupants of the butts on either side of me. They were the Maharajah of Dholpur, whose name I had noticed engraved on the shooting monument as having, with unfailing regularity, obtained the largest bag on previous occasions, and the Hon. George Herbert, who was then soldiering in India with a Wiltshire battalion, and who, until his untimely death a few years ago, was considered to be one of the six best shots in England. It was an education to see them bring down birds which I should have considered out of shot. Eventually I walked along to Herbert's butt and asked him what his total was. He replied that as far as he knew he had picked 295 birds, and he added "Five more and I stop." I then went back to see how Dholpur was getting on. In answer to my question he said "I hear that Captain Herbert will stop at 300. When I get two more I also will stop. That will bring my total to 302." He then proceeded to bring down a right and left from out of the sky.

I was interested in his battery of guns. He had two perfectly-trained loaders and shot with three guns. He told me that he commenced the day with 16-bores, then went on to ordinary 12-bores, and, after lunch, used a specially built pattern of 12-bore taking a very long cartridge, which he said could kill at twice the range of an ordinary gun. He was a slightly-built little fellow and I have often wondered how his shoulder managed to stand up to the concussion of such a heavy charge.

When it became too dark to shoot any more the guests repaired to the luncheon tents for tea, or stronger refreshment, and then those who had been honoured with an invitation proceeded to the Maharajah's guest house to bathe and dress for the State dinner in honour of the Viceroy. Here again we were regaled in royal style, eventually returning replete and healthily tired to the train which took us back to Delhi. During dinner we were each given a printed card showing not only the total bag of 4,206 duck, but the individual contribution of each of the guns, not excluding that of the French official.

There have been other red-letter days which duly appear in the game book and which occurred in other places and under widely differing conditions, but they must have stories to themselves.

## PRIZE-MONEY

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

THE increase of the total prize-money in next year's Open Championship at St. Andrews from £500 to £1,000, has already been mentioned in an Editorial Note in this paper, but perhaps I may be allowed to return to the subject again at greater length. Everybody must be pleased, especially, I think, that all those who qualify for the last two rounds will get some reward. The journey north is not cheap, neither are board and lodging for several days; they must make a daunting increase to the modest budget of many a young professional who wants to take this, the supreme chance of distinguishing himself, and every little in the way of a prize, even a lowly one, is at once a help and an incentive.

The winner is now to get £150 and he will have earned every penny of it; but the championship is worth so much in the way of extraneous pickings, that the £30 increase, though welcome, will neither make him nor break him. What those pickings amount to I have no notion; they depend a good deal, I suspect, on the individual's ability to "cash in" on his success. In the days when the Americans used regularly to win our championship, the victory was unquestionably very valuable. I have told before, but will tell again, how I was watching at St. Anne's with Mr. Fownes, once the American Walker Cup

captain, when Bobby Jones and Al Watrous, playing together with the championship as good as a certainty for one or the other of them, came to the 35th hole. Watrous was right down the middle of the course and Bobby in a bunker in the sandy waste to the left, and as Watrous was going to play his second, Mr. Fownes said, musingly, "I suppose he's got this shot for 100,000 dollars." As all the world knows, it was not Watrous who won, though he did put that second on the edge of the green, for Bobby played his historic shot, got a four against a five, another four against another five at the home hole and won by two shots. But Mr. Fownes's estimate, even though it was a rather generous one, was evidence of how little the actual prize mattered compared with the benefits that might be expected to flow from the winning of it.

Once upon a time the actual prize, for all it was pitifully small, mattered a good deal more. In the Editorial Note I have referred to it was said that the winner got a ten pound note or so. This was in fact an exaggeration. I have been delving and diving in some of my old books of reference, and without being too statistical, may indulge in a few figures. In 1888 Jack Burns, then a plasterer rather than a regular professional, won the championship and received the magnificent sum

of £8. Ben Sayers and David Anderson tied for the second and third prizes of £6 and £3 respectively and solemnly played off the tie two days later when Sayers won. Willie Campbell got the fourth prize of £2 and Andrew Kirkaldy and Grant tied for the fifth of £1 and split it between them.

The next year at Musselburgh, when Willie Park won, the first prize was again £8, the second £5; there were two of £3, two of £1 and two of 10s. apiece. Ten shillings was certainly not much for getting "into the money." One realises what a kind deed Big Crawford, the caddie, did to Herd when the youthful Sandy first took the desperate and adventurous step of going in for the championship. Crawford took him into his own home, fed him and gave him a bed; saved those expenses that meant so much and earned his guest's everlasting gratitude.

To those ten-shilling prizes, by the way, there belongs a little bit of history. Mr. John Ball, as a boy of fifteen, played in the Open Championship, came in sixth and, as any reasonable boy of fifteen would do, put the half-sovereign in his pocket. When later it came to framing an amateur definition, everyone knew that Mr. Ball was the purest of pure amateurs, but there was that awkward half-sovereign to be got over. Hence it was carefully laid down that

to be an amateur a golfer must not have played for a money prize when over the age of sixteen.

In 1890 at Prestwick the first prize had risen to £13 and the second to £6. Mr. John Ball won that year and so Willie Fernie and Archie Simpson, who had tied for second, divided the £19 between them. Then in 1892 there came another rise; it came not, I think, from any spontaneous generosity, but rather from force of circumstances. It was the Honourable Company's turn to house the championship and they decided to take it away from historic Musselburgh to their then new, private home at Muirfield. The town of Musselburgh rose in arms and proposed to hold a rival tournament on the very date fixed for the championship and to give the then unheard-of sum of £100 as prize money. Neither side to the dispute was inclined to give way, and things seemed at a deadlock when the Honourable Company announced an amended list of prizes amounting in all to £110. Musselburgh thereupon changed the date of its tournament and comparative peace was restored. The professionals profited by Musselburgh's gesture, but there were no more championships there. By the irony of circumstances it was an

amateur who won, Mr. Hilton, with another amateur, Mr. Ball, in a triple tie for second place. Hugh Kirkaldy and Herd, who tied with him, got £15 apiece: so the first prize had now risen to £30.

What it was when Taylor won the first of his four victories, at Sandwich in 1894, I am not quite sure, but I get this clue from his delightful autobiography. He won the championship; he was second in the Professional and Amateur tournament which Rolland won, and he says, "I had enriched myself by £50." Incidentally, before he went to Sandwich he had won £8 in a tournament at Stanmore, and this cheered him as ensuring him his championship expenses. Finally I will end by looking back at these hard times with a glance at the prize list at Prestwick in 1903. Harry Vardon, who won, got £50, his brother Tom, who was second, got £25, and then followed £15, £10, and two prizes of £7 10s. each—not a long list for a field of 127 players.

There have been other increases since then, of course, but we have had enough and more than enough figures. They are rather fun for me, who loves browsing over old championship lists, but may be rather tiresome for the reader. Nevertheless it is perhaps good for the reader

to appreciate how very much the reverse of glittering were the prizes won in their early days by those who have since risen to be the respected heads of their profession. I have no doubt that the shade of Tom Cribb, when he hob-nobs in Elysian Fields with Mendoza or the Game Chicken, thinks that the Joe Louis of to-day is a very lucky fellow, and similarly the elder generation of golfers must sometimes murmur that they were born too soon. Theirs was not a golden age in one sense of the word, but I suspect they console themselves by thinking it was in another, and I am myself sometimes inclined to think they are right, though I must not say so.

At any rate, since I have now no more to do with championship committees, I may say that the Royal and Ancient have done a wise and right thing. The professional golfer loves golf for its own sake, and when he is playing he thinks about hitting the ball and about nothing else; but he ought to be well rewarded for hitting it so well and everyone will be glad that he should be. I hope he will have plenty of nice new golf balls to play with by the time this championship comes round, and then the rest of us may get a few of the crumbs that fall from his table.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### THE HAUNTED FARM-HOUSE

SIR,—I was much interested in Mr. A. A. MacGregor's article on the haunted house (Achnadarroch) in COUNTRY LIFE of December 21, 1945.

I used to stay at Ardsheal, which at that time belonged to my cousins, Anderson by name. There was a haunted bedroom there and a ghost passage. I was told that if anyone knocked at the bedroom door, to say "Who is there?" but never to say "Come in." There was a woman in a long black cloak and bonnet, who was seen in the house. My sister saw her outside the house one day, but of the two cousins walking with my sister, one saw her but the other did not.

I was also interested, a week or so ago, in the account of the white blackbird. We had one here for quite a number of years. He had one or two black feathers, but otherwise all white. He left some descendants, notably one with a white head but other parts black. He has now disappeared too.—MURIEL BUCHANAN, Windyedge, Helensburgh, Dumbarton-shire.

### THE SUSHKINS GOOSE

SIR,—As there is always the prospect of the delightful and little-known Sushkins bean goose (*Anser neglectus*) appearing in England and being recognised, ornithologists would do well to refresh their memories by reading the excellent article which appeared in the *Ibis*, October, 1930, pages 555-559, by Mr. F. H. Van der Brink, entitled *The Occurrence of Sushkins Bean Goose (Anser Neglectus Sushkin) in the Netherlands*.

Information as to its breeding place is very scanty and the fact that it is a definite species is debatable, but recognition should be reasonably easy:—the pink band running along the bill which is more slender and a little longer than that of the bean goose (*Anser fabalis*), the legs pink to flesh colour not unlike the pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*).

It is pointed out that on migration it might well reach England—a point worth noting as many problems relating to this species remain to be solved.—F. C. WOLF (Major, 60th Rifles), Leeuwarden, Holland.

[There is considerable uncertainty as to the status of the Sushkins bean goose, for little is known of its origin or breeding grounds. It appears to be a form intermediate between *A. fabalis* and *A. brachyrhynchus*, in connection with which it may be noted that Miss Frances Pitt has crossed these species

and has hybrids that seem to answer to the description of the mysterious Sushkins goose.—E.D.]

### OUR TIMBER RESERVES

SIR,—In your issue of December 21 Mr. A. L. Howard quotes figures which show that well over 90 per cent. of all the home-grown timber used during the war came from private estates. He finds in these figures a strong contradiction of the Forestry Commission's statement that "the total effort (of private landowners) was consequently quite inadequate for maintaining private woodlands in a productive state." Surely the *non sequitur* is glaring—unless he wishes to hedge on the meaning of "productive" which is made clear in the full context?

The vast majority of the home-produced timber was privately grown for the very good reason that there were practically no State forests before 1920, and in Britain not even the quickest-growing pines make timber in 20 years. I should like to quote a sentence written by Mr. C. P. Ackers (among the keenest supporters of private forestry) in his shilling pamphlet *Our Woodlands* published a few months ago:—

British woodlands in 1914 were bearing crops which averaged probably only one fifth of what they were capable of producing.

The position was of course substantially the same in 1939, but I believe that an optimist once estimated that

our private woodlands were bearing one-third of what they would have done if well managed: nobody has yet dared to suggest a figure higher than one third. Surely these conditions justify the Forestry Commission's use of the word "inadequate" for the private effort.

Of course, some private estates are admirably managed, but these exceptions are very few (are there twenty of any size in the whole country?), and there is no satisfactory indication that landowners as a whole are showing more active interest in forestry.

With the familiar financial explanations I cannot attempt to deal here (there are understandable reasons for the lack of sylvicultural enthusiasm), but it is well that the main point should be seen clearly: even if privately-grown timber had constituted 100 per cent. of the whole production, that would still be no argument that private woods were being managed efficiently, or with a degree of inefficiency that the nation could fairly be expected to tolerate.—J. D. U. WARD, at 330, Banbury Road, Oxford.

### ALE HATCHES IN CHURCH

SIR,—As two recesses in the north aisle wall at Skipton Parish Church, Yorkshire, have been the subject of much conjecture since they were revealed during some alterations a few years ago, I enclose a photograph of



A REMINDER OF THE CHURCH ALES

See letter: Ale Hatches in Church

them. Their size can be estimated from the neighbouring pews. The suggestion of a leper squint can, I think, be discredited completely, but others imagine the larger recess to have been a holy-water stoup. Another interesting theory suggests a hermit's cell.

Somewhat similar openings that occur in certain mediæval churches at York are definitely associated with anchorites. It is now supposed, however, that the curious apertures were hatches used in former days when "church ales" were a regular Whitsun feature. According to this theory, the ales would be handed through the openings to the waiting congregation in the churchyard.—G. BERNARD WOOD, Leeds.

### DO BATS EAT DEATH-WATCH BEETLES?

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Wood's letter in your issue of December 28 as to whether bats reduce the activities of the death-watch beetle, I do not know, but I think it is doubtful. In my long experience the flight of the *Xestobium rufovillosum* is very limited and rarely out of doors, and certainly, having regard to the number of church and belfry roofs infested with the beetle, the bat does not seem to have had much success. With the advent of the close-boarded roof, which was generally adopted in place of the more open tiled roof with louvres, church roofs have become a splendid nursery for the multiplication of the beetle.

The preservation of such a beautiful roof as that depicted, as well as many others, is well worth a little attention, which is all that is required to eradicate the damage.

(1) An annual inspection should be made of the roof, and the leaves cleared out of the down pipes and valleys, so that water does not leak through the roof on to the timbers. It would probably be rare to find a dry roof so cared for.

(2) Fungus growth invariably follows the dampness caused, and perhaps the fungus is the first attraction to the beetle.

(3) In roofs already infested all that is necessary is a country carpenter, with a labourer, a ladder, and a few scaffold boards. The tunnels made by the insects should first be blown clear of the fine dust and pellets blocking the holes, and an insecticide should be blown in.

(4) To-day there are more than one of these mixtures available, but that which was used for treatment of Westminster Hall roof, originally made by Professor Lefroy at the Royal College of Science and Technology, and subsequently improved by Mr.



Kendall, called today Kendall's death-watch beetle fluid, can be relied upon. The work should be preferably carried out in the Spring, and repeated the second year, when the timbers will be found to be free from further attack. A third application may be necessary in some cases.

I have studied injury caused to church roofs and belfries for more than 30 years, and by adopting the measures suggested above a completely successful result has been achieved, while the charge on the

and ditches, rises this ancient edifice, which, as its Saxon name implies, was, previous to the Conquest, a royal residence of the Kings of England. The outer walls have probably been added to by the Normans, but the inner keep bears token of very great antiquity."

Scott, it may be noted, uses the spelling "Coningsburgh," but the prevalent description of the Castle, which is only a few miles from Doncaster, is Conisborough. —ADAM MILLER, Leeds.

### THE GOLDEN EAGLE'S GOOD DEED

SIR,—Since the golden eagle has been blamed for the scarcity of grouse in Scotland at the present time, it is only fair that the other side of the picture should be presented.

This photograph shows the tail of a stoat found in an eagle's eyrie, and I have known a stoat taken as prey on more than one occasion. —SETON GORDON, Upper Duntulm, Isle of Skye.

### WEATHER WISDOM

SIR,—Conversation turned a few days ago on the subject of weather prediction and two or three of the older people present referred to the guidance afforded by the birds and beasts and the appearance of the clouds, wind, light, etc.

As regards the latter I think scientific forecasting, particularly when stratospheric conditions come to be known, more trustworthy, but as an old-fashioned countryman rather pin my faith to the intimations of the birds and beasts.

As a generation which availed itself of this guidance is rapidly passing away, one has wondered if COUNTRY LIFE might be good enough to act as a clearing-house to bring together a lot of sound information that will soon be irrecoverable. —JOHN A. WILSON, Kilhampton, Cornwall.

[Our correspondent's suggestion

might produce interesting results; we shall be glad to hear from readers who can give such information.—ED.]

### GEORGE IV PORCELAIN

SIR,—Examples of what one may call personal pottery of King George IV are rare. The earliest I know of is a small head of English porcelain 2¾ ins. high.

In 1780 was produced in Staffordshire an equestrian figure which was moulded and coloured. It was only 4½ ins. high and is described as "a figure of the Prince of Wales, afterward George IV."

Ten years later Staffordshire produced an earthenware plate of 10 ins. diameter; on it was printed a royal crown and a representation of the Prince of Wales's feathers. It is said this plate was made in 1790 for the special use of the Prince at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. It would be interesting to know if a complete

service was made for this purpose of the same pattern. The entertaining at the Pavilion was so elaborate that the command order for a special service would be likely.

The handsome jug illustrated stands 8½ ins. high; it was made at Worcester and is of the rich *bleu du Roi*, the colour first brought out at Sèvres and imitated by many factories, on account of its great beauty. The inside of the vessel is white, the handle also white, with the same blue used in decoration; the vine leaves and grapes are finely modelled in relief. The portrait medallion is in white paste, in low relief, the circle framing of gold.

This is an important piece, rare and quite perfect. Its modelling is graceful and practical, especially in the capacious bowl and bold shaping of the lip. —E. N. JACKSON, 2, South View, East Street, Mayfield, Sussex.

### A GOOD WORD FOR THE JAY

SIR,—Not long ago, there were a number of letters in the Correspondence columns of COUNTRY LIFE com-



WORCESTER JUG (8½ INS. HIGH) WITH PORTRAIT MEDALLION OF GEORGE IV

See letter: George IV Porcelain

menting on the many villainies of that handsome marauder, the jay. So far as I can recall, few of your readers had a good word to say for this bird. I am well aware of the harm it does in a garden and to the eggs and young of more useful birds, but the jay has at least one thing in its favour: it is, I am convinced, a very successful catcher of mice. Time and again, when I have been working in my garden, more or less concealed by vegetation, a jay has flapped heavily past with a mouse plainly to be seen in its bill. Anyone who takes the trouble to look up the jay in that indispensable publication *The Handbook of British Birds* will find that mice are included in its rather omnivorous diet.

For some years I have been putting down scraps of food in my garden to attract wild birds, largely for the pleasure of watching them, but also with a view to photographs. I soon found that the numerous mice, voles and even shrews that fell to the traps set in my rockery formed a well-nigh irresistible bait for jays. In fact they seemed to prefer this fare to any other. Unfortunately, from a photographic point of view the jay is quick and energetic in its actions. All my early attempts to depict a bird carrying off a mouse were spoilt by movement. Eventually I managed to get a satisfactory picture while a jay was apparently debating how many shrews it could carry away at once. It already had two in its beak and was hesitating about a third when I made my exposure.

I am enclosing this photograph in the hope it may be of interest to your readers. —M. S. W., Orrest Foot, Windermere.

[There is very little that comes amiss to a jay, small mammals, frogs, etc., being thoroughly appreciated. Shrews, so distasteful to dogs, cats and foxes, probably on account of their smell, are eagerly picked up, as our correspondent's excellent snapshot shows. His picture is a good illustration for evidence that birds have no sense of smell worth mentioning.—ED.]

### A MOUSE TALE

SIR,—Seeing your correspondent's *Cat Tales* in a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE encourages me to think my fellow-readers might be interested in a rather strange Mouse Tale. A short while ago, my neighbour, who for some nights had been disturbed by a noisy mouse, decided to ring up a friend who has kittens for sale, and install one in her



TAIL OF A STOAT FOUND IN AN EAGLE'S EYRIE

See letter: The Golden Eagle's Good Deed

church funds has been comparatively negligible. —ALEXANDER L. HOWARD, 4, Stanhope Street, Euston Road, N.W.1.

### A CAT TAX

SIR,—The suggestion put forward in COUNTRY LIFE some time ago, that cats should be taxed is very sound, and pussy would undoubtedly benefit if his or her owner had to make a small payment for the privilege of ownership.

All cats, with very few exceptions, can truly claim to be destroyers of vermin and therefore of benefit to society; not so the masses of dogs in this country, of which the vast majority are utterly useless.

No thinking person would deny that a tax of five shillings per annum for cats and a guinea for dogs would benefit both animals enormously. —IVOR R. FOSTER, 46, Prospect Drive, Llandaff, Cardiff.

### AN IVANHOE CASTLE

SIR,—Lovers of the works of Sir Walter Scott will welcome the announcement that Conisborough Castle, famous in *Ivanhoe* as the place where Athelstane reappeared to Richard Cœur de Lion and Cedric, has been offered to the local district council by its owner, Lord Yarborough, for a nominal sum.

Although Scott confesses that he had only a transient view of the Castle when travelling in the district, he saw its potential value for his story and he was at pains to make research into its history.

"There are few more beautiful or striking scenes in England," he wrote, "than are presented by the vicinity of this ancient Saxon fortress. The soft and gentle River Don sweeps through an amphitheatre, in which cultivation is richly blended with woodland, and on a mount, ascending from the river, well defended by walls



THE JAY COLLECTING SHREWS

See letter: A Good Word for the Jay



A WATERLOO MEMORIAL ON  
COLCHESTER CASTLE



THE SYCAMORE ON LAUNCESTON  
GATEWAY

See letter: *Trees on Buildings*

house. On going into her dining-room to ring up the friend, whom should she see but Mousie sitting on the telephone, looking at her!

I have not heard of any further disturbances, and the mouse, which was evidently telepathic (or shall we say telephonic?) disappeared into the garden.—OLIVE HAWKES-CORNOCK, *Moneens, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.*

#### A FRIEND OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

SIR,—While it is perfectly true that we owe to Blore (as your correspondent of December 14, 1945, says) the final rescuing of the Retable, described by Mr. J. G. Noppen (*COUNTRY LIFE*, November 9, 1945), from the top of one of the waxwork cases and its restoration as one of the major treasures of Westminster Abbey, its existence was already known to antiquaries. It was seen by George Vertue in 1724-25 and was described by him in one of his invaluable notebooks (see *Walpole Society* Vol. 18). It was examined again by Governor Pownall in 1775 and described by him in a paper in *Archæologia* (Vol. IX), and it was also known to Carter, who refers to it both in his *Specimens of Ancient Sculpture and Painting* and again in a paper in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1817.

It was, however, in 1827—this, and not 1829, is the correct date—that Blore, then newly appointed Architect and Surveyor to the Abbey, "re-discovered" the Retable. On March 29 of that year he communicated to the Society of Antiquaries a brief description of his "recent discovery." He was able to announce that with the co-operation of the Dean he had been able to redeem it "from the state of degradation" in which he had found it and that he and the Dean were taking steps that "so great a treasure should only be opened to public inspection with all precautions which were essential to its perfect security."

The story of its preservation, etc., was told in an article which I wrote for *The Times* (August 20, 1931).—LAWRENCE E. TANNER, *The Monument Room and Library, Westminster Abbey.*

#### THE SALKELD SCREEN

SIR,—In Carlisle Cathedral is a very interesting and unusual screen with striking figure-heads carved in bas relief. The last Prior and First Dean, Lancelot Salkeld, had it erected; it is Renaissance work and is thought to be by a Flemish artist.

It will be noticed that the women's styles of hairdressing are very much alike—but being women they must have different head gear! One of them is wearing a necklace which appears to be of stiff material.

The man's head makes an inter-

esting study with his long sharply pointed beard, curled drooping moustache and side-boards. The chin strap hangs loose from his quaint little flat cap adorned with a long feather.

The photographs show how very well the carvings are preserved, although it is a great pity that long

so before the war.—NORTHERNER, *Leeds.*

#### ON THE STIPERSTONES

SIR,—Shortly after reading your interesting article on the hill country of South Shropshire, I had an opportunity, the first since the war, of visiting



THE STIPERSTONES SHOWING THE CONCRETE PILLAR

See letter: *On the Stiperstones*

cracks are appearing in the panels of this great treasure.—J. D. R., *Darlington, Durham.*

#### TREES ON BUILDINGS

SIR,—Mr. F. Lumber's letter and photograph (December 7, 1945) of a tree growing on a chimney top is most interesting.

Your readers may care to see

the Stiperstones, and was sorry to see that the Devil's Chair, which Mary Webb describes in *The Golden Arrow* as "a mass of quartzite blackened and hardened by uncounted ages" and where she often sat thinking out her books, has been adorned by a large pillar of concrete, which strikes a jarring note in this otherwise unspoiled bit of lovely country. The only reason

another of these remarkable growths; I took a photograph of it some time ago.

Out of the buttress of the lovely gateway at Launceston, Cornwall, grows a beautiful sycamore of great age.

It is surprising how it gets nourishment as the trunk comes out of the buttress about six feet from the ground.—R., *Durham.*

#### COLCHESTER'S TREE MEMORIAL

SIR,—Another notable example of a building providing harbourage for a tree, is Colchester Castle where, on the wall near the top of the staircase, a stunted sycamore is a prominent feature. This is of historic interest, as the tree was planted, I understand, to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo.

I enclose a photograph taken a year or the war.—NORTHERNER,

I have been able to ascertain was that it was to "aid air warfare" but surely the Stiperstones are conspicuous enough without such an artificial terminal. Shades of Mary Webb! I enclose a snapshot showing the offending post.—M. W., *Hereford.*

#### FRANCIS PALGRAVE'S BIBLE

SIR,—I purchased a second-hand Bible from an oddsments box the other day and was interested to find, on examining it, that it has on the title page, in flowing script and faded ink, the inscription "Francis Palgrave" and the date "13th July 1831."

The Bible is the English Version of the Polyglot Bible, published by Samuel Bagster, 1828, with Hebrew opposite the English in the Old Testament and Greek opposite the New Testament.

In the margins are numerous notes which appear to be all by the same hand, which does not, however, seem to be that which penned the name and date on the title page. The marginal notes consist mainly of dates and places—for example: 13th August 1837 Namur (earliest entry), 15th August 1839 Avignon, 29th September 1839 Cologne, 13th May 1843 Oxford (latest entry).

On the fly-leaf is pasted a book-plate consisting of a coat of arms. I am not versed in heraldry but a vernacular description would read: Shield divided perpendicularly, a small quartering in the top left-hand corner bearing a double cross with fleurs de lys at the end of each bar; a lion rampant facing left. Beneath is the motto "In summo."

I am wondering if this Bible belonged at one time to Sir Francis Palgrave, who was born in 1788 and died in 1861, becoming a Christian in 1823 when he changed his name from Cohen. Sir Francis was, of course, the father of Francis Turner Palgrave, the famous anthologist. My supposition would appear to be supported by several dates applying to Yarmouth and villages near, since Sir Francis married a Yarmouth woman, Elizabeth Turner.

Whether the dates refer to sermons heard or delivered, one cannot say. As most of them are spaced seven days apart they appear to refer to Sundays. A foreign tour to Italy and France apparently took place in 1837, to France, Italy and Germany in 1839, to Switzerland, Italy and France in 1841 and to the Rhine in 1842. "Mortlac" is mentioned several times; I presume this is Mortlake. At the heading of the Gospel of St. Matthew is a note: "Began reading this with the dear children 25th February 1828."

I wonder if any of your readers can throw any light on this book?—E. M. BARRAUD, *Little Evereden, Cambridgeshire.*



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See letter: *The Salkeld Screen*



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## NEW BOOKS

# MATURED REMEMBERING

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MR. SIEGFRIED SASOON lays down his memories like a vintage wine, maturing in the cool cellars of the years, and he produces them when not only the experience but the later-apprehended aroma of the experience makes the whole thing "just right." In *Siegfried's Journey* (Faber, 10s. 6d.) he has a phrase which shows him to be aware of this process. He speaks of "the crude experience and the proportions in which it emerges in the perspective of matured remember-

limits of his own mental and spiritual equipment, widening them where he can, accepting them where he cannot. Mr. Sassoon's impulse was once lyrical and is now contemplative. It was never, so far as one has evidence, reformative.

On that basis we must accept him, and accept this beautiful book. It is notable for many things, and, to me, most notable of all for its series of portraits of men of letters. When he was done with the Army, Mr. Sassoon found himself engaged in a regular

**SIEGFRIED'S JOURNEY.** By Siegfried Sassoon  
(Faber, 10s. 6d.)

**RUFUS ISAACS, FIRST MARQUESS OF READING.**  
By The Marquess of Reading  
(Hutchinson, 20s.)

**THE GLORY OF ELSIE SILVER.** By Louis Golding  
(Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.)

ing." This book could fitly be called a beautiful exercise in matured remembering.

### 1916-1920

The years dealt with are few but significant: 1916 to 1920. You must imagine a young man of exceptional sensibility who has been an infantry officer with a gallant record, who has been wounded several times, who has made a protest against the continuance of the war, yet has chosen to return to it, who has attracted a good deal of attention by war-poems that dealt with aspects of fighting that the popular imagination preferred not to dwell upon.

Here we have this young man in the overlap period: the last two years of the war, the first two years of the peace. He finds himself "rejecting almost everything I had been brought up to admire"; his political persuasions swing to the left, he helps Philip Snowden in an election campaign, he joins the staff of a Labour newspaper. "The new world was going to be made by the Young, and I was one of them." The "matured remembering" of all this brings the comment: "It astonishes me now that I could have felt so strongly about it, or have been so oblivious to the obdurate unprogressiveness of semi-civilised mankind."

How strongly did he feel about it? So far as one may form an opinion from this book, not so strongly as all that. About certain manifestations of mankind's insanity, as his poems make clear, he felt with a sharp and bitter passion; but there is no evidence of that alliance of thought with feeling that makes for a continued process of political action in one direction or another. The poet was vitally aware of consequences, and able to present them with concentrated intensity. Causes are another matter; there is nothing to suggest that he dug down to them; and his present-day conviction of the "obdurate unprogressiveness" of men implies that he would consider this an unrewarding endeavour. This is no matter for blame. A man must work within the

Cook's tour of the extant monuments of English literature. There was a dinner with Galsworthy. "As he sat at the dark polished dinner table his strikingly handsome face and unassuming dignity seemed somehow avuncular, suggesting that, when we had finished our discussion of Turgenev and Thomas Hardy and I was sipping a second glass of the '87 port, he would inquire, with a subdued smile, whether a slight increase in my college allowance would meet with my approval."

There is a great deal about Hardy, who, quite rightly, held Mr. Sassoon's love and veneration. "'Take care of yourself; and go on getting younger!' I exclaimed on one occasion, with exuberant, emotion-charged heartiness. 'You'd better come again soon, or you may find me over at Stinsford churchyard,' he replied. Whereupon Mrs. Hardy, standing beside him in the porch, exclaimed, 'Don't be so gruesome, T. H.!'"

On one occasion Hardy and Mr. Sassoon discussed agencies for the prevention of war, and Hardy was not optimistic. "Rather diffidently, he expressed his view that wars came about almost like atmospheric disturbances, adding that he had sometimes felt that they were caused by supernatural agencies and were beyond human control."

### SCAWEN BLUNT

There is a noble elegiac picture of Scawen Blunt, old and frail, in the house full of lovely things, with the peacocks on the lawns and the Arab stallions in the paddocks—"no le animals with large plume-like tails and arched necks, whose grace and distinction matched that of their owner." How beautifully Mr. Sassoon can give us a moment in a phrase! His farewell to Scawen Blunt has all the dignity and pathos of the inevitable confrontation of youth and age. "Nothing can alter that impression of high-bred majesty of mind which I took away with me when he had relinquished my hand, lay back on the pillows, and turned his life-renouncing eyes to watch me go."



These were among the greater literary encounters, the meetings with the giants of the prime, but there is much, too, about the up-and-coming younger men and also about men in other than the literary walk of life. There is a little about hunting and riding and a lot about a lecture tour in the United States, where Siegfried's journey was enlivened by such headlines as: "Lilting Poet. Back from War. Speaks in Trumpet Tones."

#### LOOKING BACK

Inevitably, towards the end of the book, looking back through a quarter of a century—such a quarter of a century!—to the young man of those days, Mr. Sassoon tries to weigh him up. This is his conclusion: "I was a baby-trapped idealist. and 'young man,' as Francis Bacon wrote, 'stir me more than they can quiet, fly to the end without consideration of the means.' If I were asked to make a speech about war now, it would consist of a couple of sentences. 'The only effective answer that a poet can make to barbarism is poetry, for the only answer to death is the life of the spirit. Explosives cannot destroy the material or dumbfound the utterance of inspiration.'"

To write the life of one's father must be a considerable exercise in self-restraint. If your feeling has been of no great enthusiasm one way or the other you are not likely to attempt the task; and so the alternatives appear to be an attitude of shyness, timidity or hero-worship on the one hand, or, as in the case of Samuel Butler, loathing on the other. A man's life is not normally written unless he has been "someone," and that, in itself, introduces a disturbing factor. A contemporary novelist and poet once spoke to me of certain difficulties in his relations with his children because they were reaching an age when they understood him to be something of a "great man."

The difficulty will obviously be deepened when the subject of the biography is not only eminent in his own right, but also, through our British peerage system, a "founder," one who has established a title which, granted heirs, will continue to have a place in the "Upper Chamber." This was the position of Rufus Isaacs. His son, the second Marquess of Reading, writes: "To have been born a younger son of a Jewish fruit-merchant in the City of London and to have died as the first Marquess of Reading, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., successively Attorney-General, Lord Chief Justice of England, High Commissioner, Ambassador, Viceroy and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, is surely to have made an indelible mark on the tablets of history."

#### RUFUS ISAACS

The book is *Rufus Isaacs, First Marquess of Reading* (Hutchinson, 20s.). It is the second instalment of a story whose beginning was published some years ago. To the general reader, no doubt, the beginning of such a career as Rufus Isaac's is more interesting than the end. It was a career that always had its stresses and tensions, but the more obviously readable part of such a story is that in which the nobody is engaged in the struggle which makes him a somebody.

Here we begin in 1914, when Rufus Isaacs was already Lord Chief Justice, and the main matter of the book is concerned with his work in America, first as Commissioner and later as Ambassador during the last war and with his term in India as Viceroy.

The author speaks of his father's

unapproachability—"He greatly relished the company of his fellow men and women, provided always that they kept their distance"—but clearly has a deep affection for the man and admiration for the administrator. He does not, however, allow much of this to come through. He has solved his problem by making his book, so far as possible, objective; and, more than this, he has directed his consideration not to the man but to the work he did.

It must be admitted that, save to those who take an intellectual interest in the political and administrative problems involved, this does not make for enjoyable reading. It is only towards the end, when the main tasks were done, and a condition of semi-retirement was reached, that we have a glimpse or two of the man behind the official mask.

The author's appreciations are just, in the main. "His talents were for administration and negotiation rather than for initiation. He had neither the burning vision nor the creative ardour of the great reformer." This being so, one reads with a little surprise the conclusion: "He rose to heights never before attained by one of his race." To offices and dignities, no doubt. Heights are another matter.

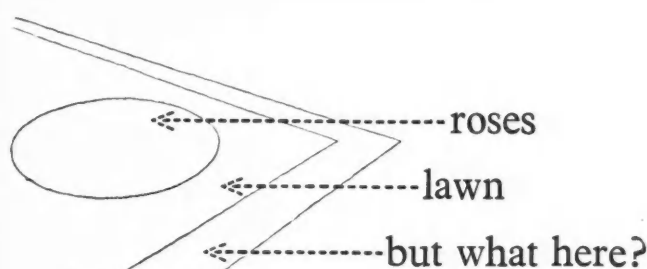
#### THE WARSAW GHETTO

Mr. Louis Golding's novel, *The Glory of Elsie Silver* (Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.) gives us the end of the young Doornington woman (Manchester to me) whose career has been followed in a number of volumes. Essentially, this is the story of the now celebrated armed revolt of the Jews shut up by the Germans in the Warsaw ghetto. Elsie Silver, who had been married to a German general, killed by the machinations of Himmler, finds herself fortuitously in the ghetto in the course of an endeavour to escape the country. Essentially, she does not touch the action of the story at all, though she is dragged into contact with it at times.

There is now, from one source and another, a good deal of evidence of what happened in the Warsaw ghetto in those fateful days, and in presenting it in a coherent sequence Mr. Golding has brought both pity and passion to his task. Elsie Silver is a poor self-indulgent stick against this background of death and doom. It is this background which makes the book: the sense of anonymous dedication and sacrifice which has clearly affected the author's imagination very deeply.

#### AN INDIVIDUAL ANTHOLOGY

THE product of two cultivated minds, *Another World than This* (Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.) is an anthology with a difference, and a welcome one. There are passages from Greek, Latin, Chinese and French, as well as from English literature; most of the foreign extracts are accompanied by translations made by the compilers, Miss V. Sackville-West and Mr. Harold Nicolson, except for the Chinese ones which are chiefly in Mr. Arthur Waley's celebrated versions. The aim of the compilers has been to avoid the literary beauty spot that is too well known, and on the whole this has been done. But perhaps the average reader of literary taste is rated a little too low, for he finds included in the category of rarity such poems as Shirley's "The glories of our blood and state," Coventry Patmore's "Here, in this little Bay" and Sir Walter Raleigh's "Give me my scallop-shell of Quiet." Some readers will also note with surprise that the compilers practise, and recommend as "an excellent habit," what many other book-lovers abhor as a vice: markings in books. The quotations are skilfully arranged to suit the months of the year. V. H. F.



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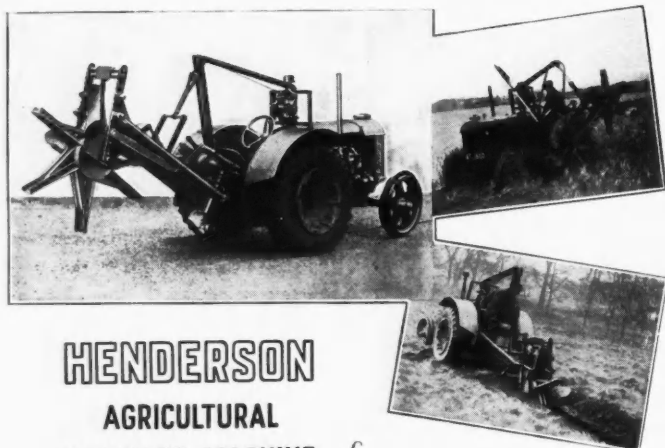
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## FARMING NOTES

# FARMERS' PROFITS

FARM profits for the past year have not been on an extravagant scale. That, I think, is the general experience of farmers. It is confirmed by some figures that come from the South Eastern Agricultural College at Wye, Kent. Results cover a year ending at various dates between Michaelmas, 1944, and Lady Day, 1945. One hundred and ninety-three mixed farms and 24 specialised farms are covered. On the general mixed farms the average profit was £403 or £205 per 100 acres. This is equivalent to an average of about 11½ per cent. on the farmer's capital. This is a modest return, which should silence those who still talk as though every farmer were making a fortune. In fact, of these 193 farms, 71 showed a loss in 1944 and my expectation is that when the 1945 figures are ready more of them will come out on the wrong side. Labour costs have been creeping up steadily. On the specialised farms, which in this part of Kent are concerned with fruit, hops and market-garden crops, there was a very good profit in 1944. It averaged £1,931 per farm or £1,477 per 100 acres, equivalent to about 47 per cent. on the capital. None of these farms showed a loss.

### February Price Review

SETS of figures like these are used by the Ministry of Agriculture in determining the profitability of farming and as a basis in the February price review for reckoning how prices should be adjusted in order to meet changing costs of production. The process is complicated by considerations of the nation's food requirements, which may make it desirable to give a special incentive to, say, the production of milk, leaving other items, for instance wheat, with a reduction in price. So far as can be foreseen the country will want all the milk and other animal products that can be got from our farms for some time to come. And if there is a prospect of more feeding-stuffs farmers may well get some price incentive out of next month's review to encourage them to produce more fat pigs and eggs. But we must not cherish false hopes. Whatever may be added to livestock prices will come off the cereals and possibly potatoes and sugar-beet. So far as I can judge there is no prospect of any nett increase in farm incomes. We may get a little more to cover increased wage bills, but there will be nothing extra to go into the farmer's banking account. The promise of assured markets and fixed prices continuing after the war does not by any means mean a continuation of the war-time level of profits. We should be living in a fool's paradise if we imagined that. My own guess is that prices all round will be shaved down each year in anticipation of the savings which the Government will expect farmers to make through greater efficiency in production.

### Costs of Re-seeding

IN Warwickshire careful costs have been kept of establishing grazing leys on land ploughed out of old turf and on old arable. The seeds mixture consisting largely of perennial ryegrass with some cocksfoot, red clover and white clover costs £2 15s. an acre. The re-seeding was done by the War Agricultural Committee in the Spring of 1944 and the costs are detailed in an article that appears in *Agriculture*. The fields were not big; they averaged only 8 acres. The costs of cultivations on the arable fields were £1 an acre less than on fields of old turf and this made the difference between a total cost of £9 17s. 3d. an acre on arable fields and £10 19s. 7d. on old turf fields. Mr. B. M. Cooke, of Harper Adams College, commenting on these figures,

says that the benefits of re-seeding cannot be assessed accurately without knowing the productivity of the field prior to re-seeding and without keeping accurate records of live-weight increase or milk production per acre as well as the numbers of livestock grazed subsequently. On 15 farms where records were kept of the number of grazing days between the time of re-seeding in March or April and at the end of the year the highest was 512 cow-days per acre and the lowest 129. There is little doubt that re-seeding does give better grazing and higher livestock output. One has to invest generously to get a good dividend.

### Virus Diseases

RASPBERRY growers in Scotland are in trouble through the spread of virus diseases which have almost knocked out the Lloyd George variety. Round Blairgowrie, where raspberry growing is an important industry, Norfolk Giant is being used instead, but this is an inferior variety and now it in turn is jeopardised by rapidly spreading disease. The Scottish Department of Agriculture have produced a leaflet describing the trouble and the best methods of control. Research has been started by East Malling, working through the local college at Dundee. This trouble with raspberries is just one example of the virus diseases of farm and garden crops which occur in the British Isles. Potatoes and sugar-beet are affected, and so are brassica crops. Those who want simple, authentic facts on virus diseases should consult a book lately written by Mr. Kenneth M. Smith of the Plant Virus Research Station at Cambridge (Littlebury, 10s. 6d.). Some people say that we should have been much happier if we did not know too much about diseases. Our fathers talked about crops being blighted in the same general way as the shepherd talked about lambs dying through being chilled. In our generation the scientist wants to probe all Nature's mysteries.

### Precious Fertility

A WORD about farm-yard manure. Most of us who are farming would like to get more farm-yard manure onto the land. This form of fertility is reckoned even more precious by market gardeners and nurserymen. But few of us treat F.Y.M. with the respect that it deserves. We prefer old, well-rotted manure to fresh dung that contains long straw that is difficult to handle and plough in. Yet fresh manure has a special value on clay soils, making them work more easily. True enough it will make sandy soil dry out badly if ploughed late. The important consideration is that in really fresh manure the nitrogen has not broken down completely into nitrates. It is still largely in the form of ammonia which is readily lost to the atmosphere when the manure is moved. I am told, moreover, that ammonia is injurious to plant roots and that fresh pig manure can be positively harmful to seedlings. So we should not be in a hurry to get fresh manure on to the land if seed is to be sown immediately afterwards. Our grandfathers put great faith in yard manure. They were bullock men and not cow keepers. There is more potash in yard manure than in manure from the cowshed, especially in these days when to comply with town-made regulations we swirl down the cowshed floor twice a day. The American farmers who manage to keep their cowshed floors sweet by dusting with superphosphate are wiser in their generation. Until we are allowed to be more sensible the manure from the cowshed should be put onto the heavy land and the yard manure should go on to the light land that is usually short of potash. CINCINNATUS.



## THE ESTATE MARKET

PAST, PRESENT  
AND FUTURE

A WELL-KNOWN mathematical treatise on the laws of chance lays it down that nothing that has happened in the past in any game of chance can affect or indicate what may happen in the future. However much they may dissent from this view of events, the devotees of various forms of gambling continue to experience the truth of it as they try to penetrate the veil of the future by a study of the past.

In other avenues of activity much may be usefully deduced concerning the future from previous happenings. It is so, for example, in regard to the ownership and management of real property. Even the "rash and hazardous speculation" that has terminated many quite spectacular careers in years gone by, ended as experts foresaw that it would end. According to some critics of transactions in real estate, there is one kind of speculator who never makes a mistake. No matter what the price he pays he makes a profit, invariably at the expense of those who cannot or will not outbid him. That is the expressed opinion of persons who clamour for a check to be put on him, whether he be a buyer of farms, large estates to re-sell in small lots, or low-rented urban dwelling-houses. Experiments in repression have occasionally been tried, and some have never got beyond the theoretical stage, for example, the recent agitation to control the selling-price of houses.

## THE SPECULATOR

THE fact is that there is not much scope for speculation in the real property sphere at the moment. For instance, it is no use anyone buying a farm with the intention of ousting the tenant and raising the rent, for the sitting tenant is protected; and, in the case of small houses, rent restrictions impose an effective barrier to arbitrary increases, while, as regards the disposal of large landed estates two considerations at least hold good. One is that there are would-be buyers of the entirety for investment, and the other is that many recent auctions have proved that landowners who have to part with some extensive estate do very well to break it up themselves.

## AN OUTCOME OF FOOD PROBLEMS

THE difficulty of obtaining adequate supplies of food has pressed not only on individuals but on every organisation which includes in its duties the feeding of workers and others. A shipping company, which trades between this country and Ireland, has for some time past, since about the year 1940, drawn a large part of its provisions from Irish sources, instead of as in pre-war days from Liverpool and other ports. The company has at length come to the conclusion that it should supplement its food supplies by going in for large-scale farming in Ireland, and it has purchased 700 acres at Carrollstown, near Trim, in County Meath, for £36,000. Cattle breeding and general farming will be carried on, to produce supplies for the company's fleet. Any regret at the consequent loss of a fairly large customer for British produce will be tempered by the thought of all that rationing means and has meant, as well as by the certainty that, whenever restrictions are removed, every ounce of home-grown produce will find an eager demand within these islands.

## FARMS WITH POSSESSION

A LINCOLNSHIRE correspondent reports the sale, at Boston, of a freehold of nearly 80 acres, known as

Ball House Farm, with possession, for £10,700. Under the hammer, in Chester, 228 acres, freehold with possession, at Hurleston, have changed hands for £14,000.

Northerwood House and 27 acres, near Lyndhurst, have been presented to the Forestry Commission, for use as a New Forest training school in the management of woodlands.

Approximately 600 acres of Shropshire land on the Bryn Tanat estate, at Llansantffraid, have been sold, at Oswestry, by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., for a total of £29,750. Keen competition and high prices are reported as marking half-a-dozen other auctions of farms in the same county. In Wiltshire, for a holding of just over 120 acres at Rowde, near Devizes, a local agency has obtained £7,600 at auction.

## HOME OF BURNE-JONES

SIR EDWARD BURNE-JONES found Kensington a convenient spot, and took a house in Kensington Square, but stayed in it only three years, removing to an old Georgian house in what is now known as North End Crescent, West Kensington. There he had the use and enjoyment of three-quarters of an acre of garden. This freehold is now for sale.

## DUNGENESS COASTLINE

LITTLESTONE-ON-SEA, on the Kent coast towards Dungeness, retains its original quality residentially. In this respect it has escaped the unhappy fate of Dymchurch, which, once a pleasant retreat combining rural peace with the delights of a grand beach, is now a place of cheap bungalows and noisy holiday-makers, of the type who litter the shore with empty tin-cans and broken bottles. One of the best of the modern houses at Littlestone-on-Sea is Fairways, adjoining the golf links. It is a freehold of over three-quarters of an acre, and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley have instructions from Lord Nunburnholme to dispose of the property, and the advantage of immediate possession will be had by a buyer.

## CROWN LEASEHOLDS

THE ground rents payable to the Crown for Regent Street premises and sites are among the highest in London, and only the erection of very large blocks of shops and offices has made it possible to pay them. During the war years high rents have been yielded there by lettings of accommodation to official departments, and there are signs of a reviving demand for premises for commercial use. In the last week or two sales of Crown leases—that is to say of the right to hold the property for the term of the lease, not an out-and-out sale converting the tenure to freehold—have been announced, amounting in the aggregate to approximately £500,000.

## FROM £65,500 TO £3,000

THE chairman of a great block of City premises in St. Martin's-le-Grand has put war damage in a picturesque manner, by saying that in the Autumn of 1940 the company suffered an overnight reduction of rental from £64,500 a year to less than £3,000. Since that time steps had been taken which had restored the rents to over £31,000 a year without taking into account the advantage of being exempt from payment of rates, as the tenants were official. Some City owners have given up wishing for anything from their property, and would be glad if they could find anyone to pay them a fair sum for the vacant land.

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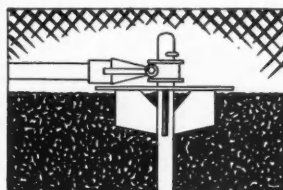
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## INDISPENSABLE WOOL FROCK

with narrow panels curving into pockets, another right down the centre. Three at the back mould the dress to the waist. Jays.

ALL the collections for Spring include a large number of woollen frocks in jersey, tweed, flannel, wool crêpe and serge. All are simple in cut, completely different from the straight up and down shirtwaisters, with their full skirts and snug waistlines, neat Peter Pan or Puritan collars, plain three-quarter or bishop's sleeves. Fullness tends to be massed in the front still, although a number have big unpressed pleats all round pressed into a tight waistband. The tweeds, flannels, and a few fine suitings, are prettiest when they have a gored swing skirt, three-quarter sleeves, narrow leather belts, tops cut on the cross with wide armholes. The wool crêpe and jersey frocks in heavy weights are still slim and plain with a lot of intricate curving of the seams about the waistline, as in the brown dress we have photographed designed by Mr. Luker, of Jays.

Tweeds and suitings look newest when they are neutral and chalk-lined, or over-checked, in a clouded pastel. The plain fine woollens, either jersey or crêpe, are bright as a Matisse—sealing-wax red, emerald, lemon, mustard, old gold, turquoise, coral—while, for a change, a stone with a warm tinge—the shade that looks so chic with black—is strongly featured in every collection and in every weight. There is also an ice blue, which Wolsey show, that is a very great favourite.

The circular skirt set into a snug halfbelt at the back, a belt that curves into the small of the back and is a fraction lower than last year, is a very becoming style shown by most of the big wholesale houses. The dresses

## EVENING SKIRT AND BLOUSE



PHOTOGRAPHS: ANTHONY BUCKLEY

Evening skirt in black wool georgette, a high curved front, a becoming panel of limp folds at the back. Gold lamé blouse with fluted cap sleeves. Peter French.



A Suit that sets off a woman to advantage, the result not only of that insistence on perfect cut and finish which are a feature of all Jamedon suits, but of a flair for clever and striking detail. Note the turn-back pockets cut on the reverse of the fine grade herringbone worsted, a multi-coloured cloth in browns, blues and greens.



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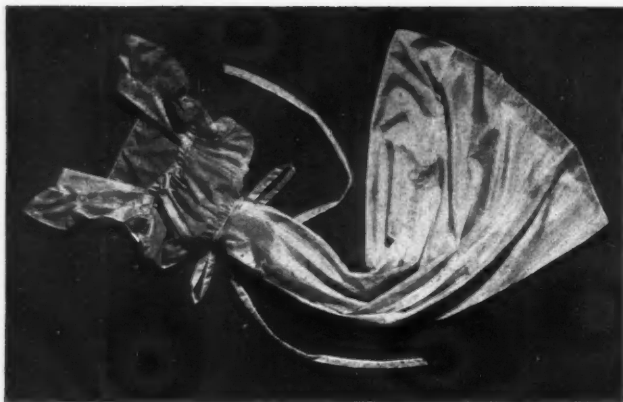
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Nylons, a peach-coloured nightgown frilled like a Victorian child's pinafore, and (right) white cami-knickers with pale blue gauged front, white slip, and French knickers Marshall & Snelgrove.



button right up to the throat where they are finished by a neat round white collar or by an Edwardian neckband and bow. Armholes are wide and soft on many of these dresses, and wideish three-quarter sleeves are made to be worn turned back. Fine woollens, checked or tartan, in gay mixtures of colour, pleated all round to a tight waistband, are reminiscent of the dresses worn by the girls in the Victorian story books. They are charming with the many bonnets the milliners have designed for the Spring, with short swing jackets, the kind that Dereta are making in smooth cloth and corduroy in geranium pink, midnight blue, mustard, emerald. Jackets in Bedford cord, tweed, duveteen tend to be more sombre: stone, cinnamon, black, or black flecked with grey.

The dresses gathered or pleated all round are definitely for the young, but the circular skirt with four seams is very slimming, while wide armholes and three-quarter sleeves are helpful for a figure that is heavy on the hips. The whole tendency of all the frocks is to make the shoulders look wide without the jutting

back and front, of the tailored shirt dress.

**B**LOUSES and skirts are another fashion strongly featured in the Spring collections. On the whole, skirts have more width, blouses are softer-looking and more feminine. The skirts are usually in the familiar materials—navy or black barathea when they have corselette tops, or narrow belts elaborately buckled; in flannel with four pleats, one placed either side on the seams, the others centre front and back; in softer weaves when they are gathered dirndl fashion or have apron fullness, or are draped to one side as Peter French show, a smooth black woollen rep. Evening skirts are charming in one of the pliable woollen or rayon crêpes that are being woven in Yorkshire, outstanding materials that are the results of much experiment—completely matt, heavy enough to fall and move beautifully. The wool makes one of the best evening skirts in a decade; a panel of tiny limp folds at the back giving it a high Empire line, a high corselette cut in front.

Evening blouses, crossed over with many folds, fasten by three bows set on a slanting line.

Metal *cloques* have a plait laid close to the throat for their only trimming, tiny cap sleeves, and a back fastening. Morley show a heavy chalk white marocain blouse for Spring, with a back fastening, long bishop's sleeves, two rounded shoulder yokes, and a gathered front. Miss Foster, of Ships, makes cyclamen chiffon and lawn blouses with long sleeves, a tucked yoke, a turn-down collar. Spectator make evening blouses in lamé with tiny folded sleeves and cut-out décolletage. They show them with the most sophisticated black suits in face cloth, corded silk or velvet.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.



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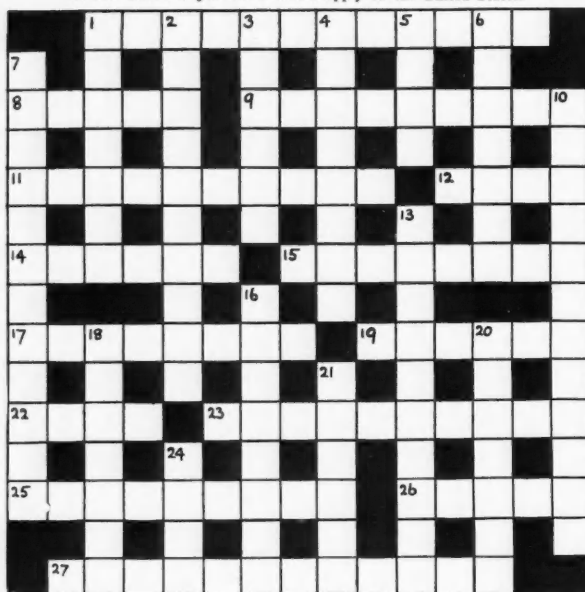
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## CROSSWORD No. 833

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 833, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, January 17, 1946.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....  
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)  
Address.....

**SOLUTION TO No. 832.** The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 4, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Windmill; 5, Swiped; 9, Longlegs; 10, Unseen; 11, Outgoing; 13, Alcove; 14, Dee; 16, Assign; 19, Doctors; 20, Prefix; 21, Pen; 26, Tattoo; 27, Ravenous; 28, Rounds; 29, Curative; 30, Sherry; 31, Sealskin. DOWN.—1, Wilton; 2, Ninety; 3, Melton; 4, Legend; 6, Windlass; 7, Pretoria; 8, Dungeons; 12, Gentler; 15, Cox; 16, Ark; 17, Upstarts; 18, Test tube; 19, Disorder; 22, Nature; 23, Recall; 24, Yorick; 25, Astern.

### ACROSS

1. Alias Simon, alias corporation (12)
8. The middle light, by the way (5)
9. Adam's girl (anagr.) (9)
11. Litters containing quins: and a friend, too (10)
12. The company seems stable enough (4)
14. Would a Wren's be "Yes"? (6)
15. Nothing is said about A's or B's performances at this training school (8)
17. Transparent acrobats? (8)
19. "On summer eves by haunted —," —Milton (6)
22. Querulous fish (4)
23. A halo in tin (anagr.) (10)
25. Epithet for strait (9)
26. She should be a peaceful girl (5)
27. But a feeling about the future, not the present (12)

### DOWN

1. No individuals on the beach (7)
2. Jack starts this long dance (10)
3. Report says, "Funny! our . . ." but fails to say what (6)
4. Nothing exceptional for the meal (8)
5. Skip it! (4)
6. This is hard, very hard (7)
7. Ice gets into the cart lamps with evil results (12)
10. No complex personality, far from it (12)
13. You must be enterprising to have it or take it (10)
16. Piece of a piece of artillery (8)
18. "Or the — worn and wan, "Never thus could voyage on" —Shelley (7)
20. From nine met one might be (7)
21. One of the prophets (6)
24. Apes into vegetables (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 831 is  
The Rev. G. S. Field,  
84, London Road,  
Sleaford,  
Lincolnshire.



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